

THE MESSENGER.

"AS THE TRUTH IS IN JESUS."

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Poetry.

HOLINESS BY FAITH.

Church of God, beloved and chosen,
Church of Christ for whom He died,
Claim thy gifts and praise the Giver,
"Ye are washed and sanctified,"
Sanctified by God the Father,
And by Jesus Christ His Son,
And by God the Holy Spirit,
Holy, holy, three in one.

By His will He sanctifieth,
By the Spirit's power within,
By the loving hand that chasteneth,
Fruits of righteousness to win;
By His truth and by His promise,
By the Word, His gift unpriiced,
By His own blood, and by union
With the risen life of Christ.

Holiness by faith in Jesus,
Not by effort of thine own;
Sin's dominion crushed and broken
By the power of grace alone;
God's own holiness within thee;
His own beauty on thy brow;
This shall be thy pilgrim brightness,
This thy blessed portion now.

He will sanctify thee wholly:
Body, spirit, soul shall be
Blameless till thy Saviour's coming,
In His glorious majesty;
He hath perfected forever
Those whom He hath sanctified;
Spotless, glorious and holy,
Is the Church, His chosen bride.

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

Communications.

For the Messenger.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

BELFAST, July 2, 1884.

My last communication was written in anticipation of what the Alliance would likely do in reference to certain questions. It has now come to the last day, and I can report that it was decided with great unanimity not to attempt at present to formulate a *Consensus* of the Reformed Confessions, and also to admit the Cumberland Presbyterian Church into the Alliance, thus disposing of two questions that it was feared might make trouble.

The report on Foreign Missions on Thursday, June 26th, was highly interesting, and still more so the addresses from missionaries from foreign lands. I may refer specially also to the addresses of delegates from the continental Churches as highly interesting. Prof. Jean Monod, of Montauban, his brother of Lyons, and Prof. Jean De Visse, B. D., of Paris, gave a report of the state of the Reformed Church and its theological teaching in France. Dr. Bausman read his paper yesterday (Tuesday), which was well received.

Saturday, the 28th, was devoted to an excursion to the Giant's Causeway. This is a point of great interest, and the scenery near by along the cliffs that stand 400 feet above the ocean is very fine. A sad accident occurred in the case of Rev. Dr. Irving of New York, who broke his leg by being jostled off a jaunting car, which it requires some practice to ride in.

A very good spirit has prevailed in all the proceedings, although some of the members at times forget that the Westminster Confession does not form the *Consensus* of faith for the Alliance. The best minds in the Alliance are liberal, and seem to understand fully the trend of theological thought in this age. Perhaps the ablest address, in a philosophical point of view, was one made by Rev. Geo. Matheson, D. D., of Inellan, Scotland, on "The Religious Bearings of the Doctrine

of Evolution." Dr. Calderwood is always listened to with close attention, and he is always instructive. I have very much enjoyed the society of the Edinburgh professors, who are men of eminent ability, and gentle, child-like, spirit. Dr. Flint and Prof. Rainy are not present in the Alliance. The venerable Dr. Cairns and Dr. John Hall are highly interesting in their impromptu addresses.

The Scotch ministers are close thinkers. From what I have heard and been told they furnish, not commonplace talks, but solid food to their people. My impression is, however, that they are still much bound in the metaphysics of Calvinism. They pay great attention to metaphysics, but to my mind it is too much bound in the clutches of logic. A very learned work shown me by Prof. Wallace, with whom I am staying, on "The Humiliation of Christ," is most able in its way, but seems to me to fail to do justice to the reality of the humanity of our Lord. It is directed against all theories of a *Kenosis*. Another able work I have looked at is on the question, "Is God Knowable?" against Agnosticism. The former is by Alex. B. Bruce, D. D., of Glasgow, and published by T. & T. Clark, and the second by J. Iverach, M. A., published by Hodder & Stoughton, 27 Paternoster Row, London. The Scottish mind is very active and acute, but it seems to me their philosophy is not so profound as the German. Still, it becomes one to speak with modesty in estimating such matters from a short acquaintance. Many of the leading minds are moderate in their views of Calvinism, but the prevailing spirit of the Alliance clings to the old views on this subject. A touch of Arminianism is regarded as so much rank heterodoxy. Yet Prof. Calderwood openly and boldly declared, in remarking on the views of the Cumberland Presbyterian

Jonathan Edwards on the Will, but believed a quite different theory. So it is plain that a fermentation is going on in these acute, metaphysical Scotch thinkers.

The general impression is that the Alliance has been a success in its present meeting, and the next, to be held in London, will, no doubt, be largely attended. What its future beyond that may be it would be difficult to forecast. If it continues, it will naturally tend to strengthen and consolidate its organization, and how far the different bodies represented in it will allow of that is a question. Its influence on the work of foreign missions has been felt, and if it devotes its energies to practical questions and practical work, it may continue to be a great power for good. So also it is a strong assertion of the tendency towards union among the Reformed Churches. The very fact of these different Churches coming together and considering important questions has a good effect. But I must close this short letter. The proceedings of the Alliance as published in the papers here have been sent to the MESSENGER and the editor can make what reference to these in detail he may think proper.

T. G. A.

For the Messenger.

THE SUPPLY OF MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES.

NO. V.

A few more hints in regard to the practical carrying out of this scheme, in case it should be adopted.

1. Let some one of the institutions make an offer to receive and support the Mission House.

2. Let the proper authorities elect a prudent, scholarly, devout man as Bishop or Overseer who will manage all matters under the general direction of the Board of Missions.

3. Let the Mission House be an integral department of the work of the Board of Missions and of its Superintendent. Let the contributions be paid into the Board the same as other missionary money, out of which are to be paid the salary of the Bishop and the general expenses of the House.

4. Let the Superintendent of the Board have a general oversight of the whole work, every student being pledged to go

to such mission or charge as the Superintendent shall direct. Possibly he may find time also to devote considerable attention to instruction (lectures); possibly too, neighboring ministers will find it a privilege to aid in the same way. The Mission House can have an organ in the *Missionary Herald*. It is hardly to be doubted that in a short time a deep interest can be awakened in the whole work, and liberal contributions secured for this school of the prophets. It would become simply an organic branch of the general work of the Board.

In conclusion, such a Mission House seems to me possible, urgently called for, would give a relief in the matter of the supply of ministers, and prove a fountain of untold blessings to the Reformed Church in the present and future.

J. H. G.

RAPID GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY.

With all that has been said on the floor of Synods and Classes, and in the columns of the MESSENGER by correspondents, and editorially, regarding the importance of educating more men for the ministry of the Reformed Church, I fully concur. No demand is more real than the demand for thoroughly trained ministers of the Gospel, possessing the true spirit of this holy office; and no subject more deservedly claims the earnest consideration of the entire Church. But I cannot concur with the presumption which seems to underlie a great deal that has been said and written.

There is a sentiment of depression abroad regarding the supply of ministers that is not warranted by our past history. The impression seems to be somewhat general, either that the number of ministers is proportionably diminishing or that the increase of ministers has not kept pace with the Reformed membership. This impression, whether it prevails in the one form or the other, has no adequate cause. It is not for me now to say how it has been produced. The truth is, however, that there has been a steady progress in the number of ministers for the last twenty years. The net gain has been greater than the net gain either of congregations or of members.

That this statement is correct may be easily determined by a comparison of the tables of statistics.

In 1863, the year when the General Synod was organized, the statistics show the status of the Reformed Church to have been as follows: 2 Synods; 26 Classes; 447 ministers; 1099 congregations; 98,775 members. Then, there was one minister for every two and a half congregations; or one for every 220 members.

Twenty years later, or in 1883, the statistics reveal the progress of the Church to have been as follows: 7 Synods; 52 Classes; 782 ministers; 1465 congregations; 170,030 members. That is to say, that last year we had one minister for every one and a half congregations; or one for every 217 members.

Comparing the statistical tables of 1883 with those of 1863, we get a very gratifying result. Expressed in figures, there was an increase during these twenty years of 5 Synods; 26 Classes; 335 ministers; 366 congregations; and 71,255 members. There was great progress in the numbers of the membership and of the congregations, but the progress in the number of ministers was greater than either. Dropping the fractions, the increase of the membership was 72 per cent. during these twenty years; the increase of the congregations was 33 per cent.; whilst the increase of the ministry was 75 per cent. The comparison of 1883 with 1863 shows that the ratio of increase in the number of ministers was three per cent. greater than the ratio of increase in the membership, and forty two per cent. greater than the increase in the number of congregations. This comparison, the correctness of which any one may demonstrate for himself by an examination of the printed tables, certainly does not furnish any grounds for depression or fear as regards the supply of ministers for the future, but on the contrary is a reason for thanksgiving and hope.

Does it follow from these gratifying re-

sults that the present concern, now so wide-spread and so deeply felt, for the more rapid growth of the ministry is groundless? By no means. Whilst the ratio of increase of congregations and of members is less than the ratio of increase of ministers, and whilst the supply of ministers for our congregations is greater now proportionably than it was twenty years ago, nevertheless the ratio of demand is gradually gaining upon the ratio of supply.

In point of numbers the growth of the ministry has kept pace with the increase of members and churches. But large pastoral charges have been divided; in many more instances now than formerly one church desires a pastor for itself; the foreign mission field has been entered, and many new missionary stations have been planted in our own country. Hence the demand for ministers is seen more clearly and felt more generally than it was eight or ten years ago.

The statistical facts which I have now stated plainly justify several inferences.

1. Whilst the demand for more ministers is real and great, there is no cause for fear as to the future, much less for alarm. There has been, on the part of our young men, no diminution of willingness to consecrate themselves to the work of the ministry. The statistics even show that the ratio of our members who are willing to preach the Gospel has been gaining upon the ratio of men among us who have been found willing to confess Christ. All we need is to cultivate the interest in the ministry which has been prevailing among us, and develop the spirit of self-consecration which has characterized our history during the last twenty years. This is now done; and if we continue in faith, facts justify the belief that the ratio of supply will in the course of a few years equal the ratio of demand.

2. The Reformed Church is not in need of new methods of supply. The institutions already established, east and west, and south, have been gaining upon the congregations and the members. Large as has been the increase of the membership, the ratio of increase in the number of ministers has been three per cent. greater. Let us but continue and multiply our efforts to induce young men of talent and of faith to enter the regular course of training preparatory to the holy ministry, and thus year by year increase the number of students in our theological schools. If in this respect throughout the length and breadth of our territory, parents and consistories, and especially pastors, are diligent and persevering the ratio of supply may easily gain upon the ratio of demand. As to the matter of increasing the number of ministers, we have in our statistical history every reason to work in a cheerful and hopeful spirit. If the devotion of our people is rightly developed, and our institutions are adequately supported, the ends at which we are aiming will without fail be accomplished. Full success will more certainly reward our efforts if we persevere hopefully and confidently than if the sentiment of depression should gain access to the general mind of the Church.

E. V. G.

For the Messenger.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

East Susquehanna Classis.

The Committee on State of Religion beg leave to report:

Upon an examination of the different parochial reports, we find that all unite in rendering unto God heartfelt thanks for His goodness and His loving-kindness shown to us during the year. Some few have suffered from sickness, two of the brethren being unable to be with us from this cause; and one brother has had to give up one of his flowers into the hands of the reaper death, in order that it might bloom in the courts above. But the general health of pastors and people has been good. All the reports unite in the declaration that during the year the word of God has been preached in its purity. The ungodly have been warned and rebuked, the faithful have been cheered and encouraged, the sick and suffering, the sad and sorrowing have been comforted.

The duty involved upon Christian parents of presenting their children to the Lord in the sacrament of baptism is generally recognized and faithfully performed. The reports also represent the great body of the people as finding in the Lord's Supper "a most comfortable sacrament," and as availing themselves of the strength and comfort to be found therein. But there are only too many who make light of this important Christian duty. It seems that 1357 of our members failed to appear at the Lord's table during the year! It is painful to be obliged to chronicle this evil; but encouraging to learn that the evil is not as great in some charges as formerly. The instruction of the young has been attended to, both in the catechetical class and in the Sunday-school. The result of the work done here may be seen in the fact that 525 of the baptized members have been brought into full membership in the Church by the solemn rite of confirmation.

Whilst the increase of Church membership, in the bounds of Classis, has not been great, yet it is encouraging. Every report, with two exceptions, reports a net gain in membership, the total being 335. The interest in the work of Missions seems to be increasing among our people. New missionary societies are being organized, and the membership of those already established is growing. This is as it should be, and God grant that the good work may go on until our valleys and hillsides are all aglow with missionary enthusiasm. In connection with this, it is pleasing to notice the increasing liberality of our members. Notwithstanding the financial depression prevailing in some of our manufacturing towns, yet almost every report speaks of increased benevolence during the year. Never, perhaps, were the Classical apportionments so well met as this year; and this, also, is as it should be. Just as soon as our people begin to realize that the silver and gold for which they toil and struggle belongs unto the Lord, and is only loaned to them by Him, to be devoted to His service and for the advancement of His kingdom here upon earth, and not until then, can we look for a successful prosecution of our different Church enterprises. Then, too, will our people cease to resort to church festivals and Sunday-school festivals as a means of raising funds, of which one report complains, and will contribute freely and cheerfully of their goods as thank-offerings unto the Lord.

In obedience to the request of Synod, Zwingli memorial services were generally held throughout the bounds of this Classis, which left a good impression in the way of enlightening the people in reference to the history of our Reformed Church, and may probably be one of the causes of our increased benevolence. With gratitude to the great Head of the Church for His blessings to us in the past, and with prayers for His blessing in the future, this report is respectfully submitted.

THOS S. LAND, Chairman.

Statistics:—Congregations, 82; Members, 8770; Unconfirmed, 5640; infant baptisms, 929; Adult baptisms, 45; Confirmed, 570; Certificate, etc., 201; Communed, 7413; Dismissed, 102; Excommunicated, 3; Erased, 48; Deaths, 287; Sunday-schools, 82; Sunday-school scholars, 5603; Students for the ministry, 2; Benevolent contributions, \$3186 00; Congregational purposes, \$31,629 00.

Bishop Simpson hit the secret of his power in public speaking when he told an inquirer: "At school the one thing I could not do was to speak. It cost me unspeakable effort to bring myself to attempt it, and I was invariably mortified by my failures. At length, having felt called to the ministry, I sought to forget myself as far as possible, and banishing all thoughts of oratory, to give myself absolutely up to the task of saying things so that people could readily understand them." His oratory was nature itself—a true, sweet, thorough, and earnest nature, intent on nothing but to carry the truth he was filled with to the hearts of his hearers in the most direct and simple way. His language was choice and idiomatic, Saxon words in predominance, but not pedantically Saxon; his manner almost as quiet as that of Wendell Phillips; his voice singularly gentle, yet penetrating; and his very presence inhaling a peculiar charm of attraction. If a collection of his discourses be published, as it is quite likely there will be, they will not show the power of the man, any more than the printed speeches of Wendell Phillips show his power. The speeches of Webster place the power of Webster before the reader; but that is a rare boon to be granted to orators, whose printed works commonly require a lively imagination to reinforce tradition in order to justify their authors' fame.—*Springfield Republican*.

Family Reading.

ARTIST AND MAN.

Make thy life better than thy work. Too oft
Our artists spend their skill in rounding soft,
Fair curves upon their statues, while the rough
And ragged edges of the unheavened stuff
In their own natures, startle and offend
The eye of critic and the heart of friend.

If in the too brief day thou must neglect
Thy labor or thy life, let men detect
Flaws in thy work! while their most searching
gaze

Can fall on nothing which they may not praise
In thy well-chiseled character. The man
Should not be shadowed by the artisan.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in *The Manhattan*.

STOPPING THE PAPER.

Mrs. Jacob Willis sat lost in thought—not very pleasant thought, either—judging from the manner in which she knitted her brow and tapped an impatient foot. The fact was, Mr. Willis had been complaining that family expenses were increasing—increasing, instead of decreasing. Something must be done to cut them down, that was evident, and she, Mrs. Willis, must be the one to devise some plan whereby the income must be made commensurate with the outgo of the family funds.

"The very foot with which I am tapping the floor this minute needs a new shoe," she soliloquized, "to say nothing of Jamie and Jennie, who need not only shoes, but rubbers and mittens to keep out the cold; and to-morrow the milk bill will be left. I owe Mrs. Jenks two dollars for making Jamie's pants, and next week two dollars and a half must be forthcoming to pay my subscription to our religious paper for the year—that is, if we continue to take a religious paper. I wonder"—here she again became lost in silent thought, but her brow was still knit in perplexity, and the impatient tapping of the shabbily-booted foot went on.

Pretty soon she broke out again, but more impetuously than before.

"I believe it will have to be done; of course I can't expect James to give up his daily paper; a man wouldn't know where to find himself without his paper, and I'd be ashamed of a man who would be content not to know what was going on in the great world from day to day. It will come hard, awfully hard, but really I begin to think it my duty to deny myself the luxury of a religious paper; with our growing family and increasing expenses, I must make the sacrifice, and might as well go about it at once. Shoes we must have, school books must be bought, food is a necessity, and help in the kitchen I cannot do without; so I see no other way."

She was not a weak-minded woman by any means, Mrs. Jacob Willis; but once convinced a certain course was the inevitable or the best one to pursue, she set about pursuing it forthwith. So down she sat and penned a little note, full of regrets, but it said plainly the pressure of unavoidable expenses necessitated the act on her part of stopping her paper. "And it was my paper, and I loved it," she said, as she closed the envelope, and brushing away a falling tear, she called Jennie and bade her post the letter on her way to school.

When Friday night came, Mr. Willis remarked to his wife that, as he was to take part in the missionary meeting, he should like to run over her paper a moment.

"I've stopped it," she said.

"Stopped it?" he ejaculated, blankly; "why, wife, what made you do that?"

"Because you said we must cut down expenses," she answered, her voice trembling, "and, besides," she added, gently, "you have said two or three successive years, when the subscription price was due, that it seemed a useless expense."

"Very true; so I have," assented Mr. Willis, "and I believe we can very well do without it, at least, better than we can afford to pay for it year after year."

So Mr. Willis departed for the missionary meeting without the useful blunts with which the religious paper might have furnished him had he been able to afford it.

On Saturday morning a neighbor ran hastily in, asking Mrs. Willis if she would allow her to see her paper for a moment.

"I heard," she said, "there was another list of those useful recipes such as you allowed me to copy once, and I knew you would spare it a few moments."

"I've stopped my paper," faltered poor Mrs. Willis.

"Stopped it? Oh, well; never mind," and the neighbor departed, rather confused.

"What made you tell her you'd stopped it?" asked Mr. Willis, who was just leaving for his business when the neighbor appeared. "I'm a little ashamed to have it known that we, a Christian family, take no religious paper."

"I'm not half as ashamed of it as I am regretful," his wife answered, gently.

Saturday night found the week's work nicely done, the children had taken the usual bath, and now gathered about their mother, lesson papers in hand.

"Come mother," said Jamie, "Jennie and I are ready for our Sunday-school lesson. Where's the paper? I'll get it."

"We have no paper to-night," said Mrs. Willis, answered, cheerfully; "so we'll try to get along without its help."

"Why, where is it?" persisted Jamie.

"We could not afford it this year, my son," spoke Mr. Willis. "You can learn your lesson just as well without it."

"Oh! dear me," piped up Jennie, "what shall we do without it? I don't see what you stopped it for; I say it's real mean."

"You shouldn't say things are real mean which can't be helped," remarked Mr. Willis. "Ma and I know best about such things."

And Jennie was silenced, but by no means convinced.

"And there's the story mother always read to us after the Sunday-school lesson was learned," wailed Jamie. "What shall we do without that?"

"Come, come!" exclaimed Mr. Willis, impatiently, "don't let me hear any more about that paper; make the best of a necessity. We can't afford it; that's enough. I'm surprised it makes such a fuss all around, just one paper."

No more was said that night. The next morning, which was Sunday, just as Mr. and Mrs. Willis were starting for church, a man so lame that he walked laboriously and only crept painfully along was seen coming up to the door.

"Ah, here comes poor old Mr. Edson," said Mr. Willis; "what could he have come all this distance for? Good morning, Mr. Edson, how is your wife this morning?"

"Better, sir, thank you, considerably better; she is sitting up to-day, and I came over, seeing she was feeling so smart, to see if you'd kindly lend me your paper; wife said 'twould be good as a cordial any day to hear me read one of those nice sermons."

Mr. Willis hastened nervously to forestall his wife's forthcoming declaration.

"I'm very sorry, Mr. Edson, very sorry, but our religious paper didn't come this week. I'll find last week's copy for you, and next week I'll send over one of the children with this week's issue, if possible."

Nothing more was said on the subject until the family were seated at their ample dinner; then Jennie asked, a little timidly:

"Pa, are you going to take mamma's paper again?"

"Yes, Jennie, I am; and I'm going to black my own boots hereafter to help pay for it."

The children were very quiet for a moment; then Jennie asked, thoughtfully:

"And wouldn't it help if we didn't have raisins in the puddings? I'd a great deal rather have one nice story and a pretty lesson every week than to have plums in our puddings."

"Yes, Jennie, that would help," replied the mother; "and as Margaret is about to leave, I'll hire a less expensive girl, and do more of my own cooking; that will probably be a great saving in respects than one. I miss the information and pleasure derived from my paper enough to make the extra effort willingly."

It was surprising how much happier they all felt, and when towards the last of the week the paper came, impulsive Jennie actually kissed it.

"Why, it looks just like an old friend," she exclaimed.

"Yes, and it is a friend in more ways than we realized, and not only a friend, but a help and a teacher," replied her mother.

Mr. Willis was silent; he saw the child's enthusiasm and heard the mother's comments, but afterwards, when only his wife and himself were in the room, he said:

"Wife, I am positively ashamed that I ever could have been so blind and stupid as not to properly appreciate the worth of a good religious paper. Absolutely ashamed that my poorer neighbors and my own children knew more of the worth and teaching of the religious press than I did. We will economize in some other direction than this in the future, do without something not actually indispensable to our comfort and satisfaction; and I promise you have heard the last from me you are ever likely to about not being able to afford to have it."

And that was how Mrs. Willis succeeded in stopping her religious paper.—*Golden Rule*.

MR. BINGLE'S OLD COAT.

"Splendid!" said Mrs. Bingle, pulling the collar up and skirt down, and settling the pocket flaps, as Farmer Bingle tried on his new overcoat. "Real silk-velvet collar!"

"Yes, and such a piece of cloth? Forty-five dollars for the whole thing?"

"Forty-five dollars!" echoed Sam and Jim, admiringly.

"Yes. Seventeen for the tailorin' and trimmin' and twenty-eight for the cloth. It'll do me till I'm gray."

"What you goin' to do with the old one, pa?" asked Jim.

"It's a good coat, yet," said Mrs. Bingle. "Sam'll be grown into it by two years more."

"First-rate coat. But—I was thinkin' some of givin' it to Parson Graves. You see, it'll go on my account for the year, and I won't have so much to pay on his salary."

Mrs. Bingle measured with her eye how much Sam would have to grow before fitting well into the roomy coat, and decided that it might be at least three years, in the course of which time, added to the seven during which it might have been doing duty on Sundays and great occasions, it might begin to look old-fashioned, and Sam

might object to wearing it, that young gentleman having already begun to develop a taste for clothing which came reasonably near fitting him. So it was agreed that Parson Graves should have the old overcoat.

Accordingly, on the next Saturday, when the farmer with his wife was about to drive into the county town, he asked at the last moment:

"Now, where's that coat?"

"Bless me!" cried Mrs. Bingle, "I've been so busy over the butter and eggs, if I didn't forget about it! Sally, Sally," she ran into the house calling to the girl who helped in the kitchen, "run up to the spare chamber and take that overcoat that hangs there, and some of them papers that lies on the shelf, and wrap it up well and bring it to me."

Sally brought it, and the huge bundle lay in Mrs. Bingle's lap as she rode.

"It is a good coat," she observed, half regretfully, smoothing with her finger a corner of the cloth which peeped through a hole in the paper, and began revolving in her mind the possibility of Sam's growing into it in two years. "Sam won't be likely to get any ready-bought coat half as good as this."

"Like as not he won't," agreed the farmer, "but never mind. It's more blessed to give than to receive, you know."

The Bingle household awoke the next morning with the impression that something of an event was pending in the family, which impression became, with full wakefulness, defined into the remembrance that the new overcoat was to be worn for the first time on that day. There was, however, no undignified haste nor trifling in the matter. The morning chores were done, morning prayer conducted with its time-honored lengthiness, and then the farmer leisurely shaved himself as usual, at one of the windows of the great kitchen, before saying, in as indifferent a voice as he could command:

"Jim, run upstairs and get my overcoat."

Jim went, but delayed until his mother had put the last touches to the bow in her bonnet-strings, a process which was almost invariably interrupted by her husband with remarks that they would be late for church, before he was heard shouting:

"I can't find it."

"Where are you lookin'?"

"In the closet in your room."

"It's in the closet in the spare chamber," called his father.

Another long delay, and then Jim came down without it.

"I tell you it's on one of them pegs in our closet," said Mrs. Bingle. "I'll go myself. It's dark and he can't see, but it's there for I put it there myself."

"No," said Mr. Bingle, calling after her, "it's in the spare chamber closet. I put it there."

Room to another, way back, and then back again. Then down the stairs, where she stood before them in silence, on her face blank consternation, on her arm—the old overcoat!

"When did you find it there?"

"I don't know the other day after it came, I guess. The old one always hung there, so I took it down and hung the new one there."

Mrs. Bingle sank into a chair.

"It's gone!"

"Gone to Parson Graves!" The boys stared, open-mouthed, unable at first fully to take in the calamity.

"But you can get it again," at length Jim said, hopefully.

"Of course!" said Sam. "You can tell Parson Graves it was all a mistake, and it was the old coat you meant for him, and, of course, he'll change back."

But the farmer shook his head ruefully. "No, that won't do. It's done and it can't be undone," he said, with a groan.

"Don't one of you never let on about it's been a mistake."

The family and the old coat were late at Church, thus missing the sight of the entrance of the new coat, but it lay over the arm of the little sofa in the pulpit. And farmer Bingle never could recall a word of that service through which he sat trying to bring himself into some friendly recognition of the fact that he had presented his minister with a forty-five dollar overcoat, which he could not hope to have counted at anything near its full value on his yearly assessment, for who ever heard of a country parson having such a coat?

"Don't he look fine, though?" ejaculated Sam, as Mr. Graves came down the aisle.

"And don't Mrs. Graves look set up?" said Jim.

"Enough to make any woman, to hang on to a piece of cloth like that," said Mrs. Bingle.

Mr. Bingle was unhitching his horses as Mr. Graves came out of the Church door, and did not at first raise his eyes as he listened to the remarks passing around.

"Bless me! What a fine lookin' fellow our parson is, anyhow! Where on earth did he get that coat?"

"Must have had a fortune left him." Mr. Bingle could not help feeling that the coat had been well bestowed, as its wearer came to meet him with outstretched hands, and a few quiet, though very earnest, words of acknowledgment of his gift. The coat had fitted the farmer, but there was something more than the mere fitting of good cloth in the minister's dignified bearing, and in the scholarly face which appeared above it, something which stirred up a feeling in many members of the congregation that this servant of the Lord had not hitherto been clothed in a fashion worthy of his high office.

"That's a shabby old hat to wear with

it," said one of the village storekeepers. I'll see about that before Sunday comes 'round.

As Mr. Bingle felt the grasp of his pastor's hand, he began almost to be glad he had given the coat; and then, as the fact of his having given it was whispered about, to feel ashamed of receiving so much credit for an act which he never would have thought of performing. For an honest and really warm nature lay under the crust of parsimonious selfishness which had hardened over his heart, as it has, alas! over so many, which might overflow in deeds of kindness to bless those who have given not grudgingly, but their whole selves to the Master's service.

"I feel like a liar; yes I do!" said Mr. Bingle to his wife, with an energy which startled her as they rode home. "To have that man shakin' me by the hand, and talkin' about my generosity, and his wife's eyes beamin' up at me; and me not able to right out and tell 'em I'm a grudin', tight-fisted old—I tell you what!"—he gave his horses such a vigorous cut with the whip that Jim and Sam, on a backless seat of the bob-along, nearly went over backwards in the snow—"I've got to get even with myself somehow, but I don't know just how yet."

It was astonishing what a commotion Farmer Bingle's gift created in the parish. Not one eye had failed to mark the justice done by Mr. Graves' goodly figure to the goodly garment, and with an awakening of pride at the possession of such a fine-looking pastor came a desire to see him thoroughly well-equipped. Which desire found expression in such a visitation at the parsonage as had never before been dreamed of. Cheap goods and cast offs were ignored in the generous supply of winter comforts which each giver made sure should be in keeping with the new overcoat, and the wives and mothers had seen to it that Mrs. Graves and the children should look fit to walk beside that tailor-made-up piece of cloth.

Mr. Bingle had smiled with a light in his eyes, which came up from somewhere under that broken crust, at the set of furs which his wife carried to Mrs. Graves. But in the early gray of the winter morning, he, with Sam's help, unloaded in the back yard of the parsonage a firkin of butter, the same of lard, and six barrels of his best apples, packed for market.

"A good forty-five dollars' worth if I'd carted it half a mile farther," he said to his wife, with a face which shone as he sat down to breakfast.

"And not a soul heard us," said Sam, rubbing his hands in great glee. "Wish I could see 'em when they find out!"

"Now I'm even," said the farmer. "And it was the best day's work I ever did when I gave away that coat by mistake."—*Standard*.

For The Messenger.

LINES

Written for a Favorite Child upon the Death of her Little Sister.

Oh think not of the suffering,

Of weary hours of pain,

Of fear ones who have left our homes,

Ne'er to return again;

'Tis hard to watch beside their bed

And hear the labored breath,

And see the loving eyes grow dim,

In struggling with Death.

'Tis hard to bend beside their grave

And bid a last "Good-bye"!

And with a sickening heart return,

To leave them where they lie;

The place they dwell in childish glee—

How desolate and lone!

How highly now we prize each thing

They used to call their own!

With blinding tears, and bated breath,

Upon each toy we gaze,

With which our loved ones used to play

In happy golden-days.

And often in the silent hours

Fond memory will restore

Remembrance sweet of those we love,

Of those who are no more.

Could we, with beckoning hand, recall

Those dear ones back again,

Down to a world of care and grief,

Of sickness—sorrow—pain,

Would we bring them here to dwell

Though joy to us 'twould be,

Once more to clasp them by the hand,

Once more their face to see?

No! Rather leave them where they are,

Within that Home above,

Where they shall sing the old, old song

"Of Jesus and His Love."

Oh! help us, Heavenly Father, now!

Through Jesus Christ Thy Son,

To say with lips, and heart, as well,

"Thy holy will be done."

Help us to feel Thy ways are best,

And give us strength, O God!

That we may kiss in faith and love

The hand that wields the rod.

And when our lives have ended here

Oh take us home to Thee!

Once more to meet the ones we love,

And long so much to see.

A. SHRYOCK.

A LITTLE WAIF.

A man passing up State Street, one chilly day, saw a bare-footed girl trotting along on the cold pavement.

"Where are your shoes, little girl?" said the gentleman.

"Don't dot any," said she.

"Don't dot any?"

"Why not?" said he.

"My papa dets drunk," said the poor little waif.

That tells the whole story. Bare feet, ragged clothing, hunger, want, poverty, and misery, all come when "papa dets drunk." And tens of thousands are beginning to taste the deadly cup that brings all this misery at the end; and others are dealing out this dreadful deadly poison to poor degraded men.—*The Little Christian*.

ONLY A BABY.

One sultry day last summer, at a time when children of the poorer class in Philadelphia were dying by the scores every week, a bloated old man staggered up the steps of a physician's dwelling. The boys shouted after him, "Old Bourbon," the name by which he had been known in the locality in which he lived for many years. "The baby's worse," he said, standing, hat in hand, where he met the doctor coming out.

"You've been here for me every day for a week," explained the doctor. "I can't go to-day. I told the child's mother there was no chance this morning. It was dying then."

"Won't you come now?"

"No; I have not a moment to spare. There are patients waiting whom I can help."

"Old Bourbon" followed him to his carriage door, twisting his rag of a hat in his shaking hands.

"She's—she's all I've got, doctor."

But the doctor, with a pitying nod, drove away, and the old man, nearly sobered by his keen distress, crept home to the attic where his little grandchild lay dying. Whatever nursing or kindness little Mary had known had come from "Old Bourbon." Her mother had six other children, and went out washing every day. The poor old drunkard and the innocent baby were left to form a strange friendship for each other. She called for him now feebly as she lay on her mother's lap.

"Daddy! Daddy! Come to me!" He knelt down and put his finger into the tiny, withered hand. The tears ran down his bloated cheeks.

"God leave her to me! God leave her to me!" he muttered.

"Daddy, come to Mary!" she cried once more, and then the little soul, whose taste of life had been so bitter, passed on into the unseen. It was only a baby. Its mother, who had six other half-starved children to feed, shed but a few tears over it. The doctor sent in a certificate of its death with a dozen others. In the weekly bill of mortality there was an item, "Of cholera infantum, seventy." That was all. Her record was ended. The world was done with her. But an old trembling man crept next Sunday into the back pew of in which he lived.

man when service was over.

"Why, is this you, Bour—I beg your pardon. What is your real name?"

"John Black, sir. I want you to take my name again. I'm thinkin' of signin' the pledge 'n' pullin' up for the rest of the time left," stammered the poor wretch.

The clergyman was wise and helpful. John did "pull up." He lived but a few months after that, but he did what he could to live a decent, honest, Christian life in that time.

"The Lord is merciful, John," his friend said to him, as he lay dying.

"I know it, sir. I'm not much acquainted with Him. But I've been tryin' to foller little Mary. I hear her always cryin', 'Daddy, come to me.' I'm comin'. An' I reckon He'll not turn me back."

Even the baby had had its work to do, and had done it.—*Selected*.

Useful Hints and Recipes.

VESTIBULE MAT.—A vestibule mat for muddy weather use, that is not without its aesthetic point, is a square of cocoanut fibre matting, bordered six inches in width with strips of Smyrna rugging in Persian colors—crimson and blue. In a square vestibule the mat can be laid in diamond shape.

Buttermilk is considered one of the best of summer drinks. Those who have a craving for something sour in warm weather will find the lactic acid which buttermilk contains very grateful to the stomach, and the staying properties of the drink will enable a person to undergo more fatigue than anything else that may be drunk.

TO CRYSTALLIZE ORANGES FOR DESSERT.—Peel and quarter the oranges, make a syrup of one pound of sugar to one pint of water, let this boil until it is like candy around the edge of the dish, then dip the oranges in this and let them drain; keep them where it is warm, and the candied syrup will become crystallized. This is delicious.

MEAD.—Boil well together three pounds of sugar and one quart of water; when cool, add one ounce of tartaric acid, and vanilla to taste. It is ready for use at once; if it is to be kept, bottle and cork securely. When used, put three tablespoonfuls in a tumbler, add a quarter of a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda, and fill the glass with ice-water.

A REMEDY FOR "ROUND

Mouth's Department.

THE BROOK'S SONG.

Mrs. M. F. Butts.

King Frost comes and looks me up,
The sunshine sets me free;
I frolic with the grave old trees,
And sing right cheerily.

I go to see the lady flowers,
And make their diamond spray;
The birds fly down to chat with me,
The children come to play.

I am the blue sky's looking-glass,
I hold the rainbow bars;
The moon comes down to visit me,
And brings the little stars.

Oh, merry, merry is my life
As a gypsy's out of Spain!
Till grim King Frost comes from the North,
And locks me up again.

—St. Nicholas.

THE GREEN-COATED SOLDIER.

Many a long year ago, three or four regiments of Russian soldiers were encamped on a flat, sandy plain upon the shore of the Gulf of Finland, not far from a new town which had just been built at the mouth of the river Neva, and called St. Petersburg. The sun was beginning to set, and the men, having finished their marching and exercising, were having a rest after the day's work, or beginning to get their supper ready.

Most of them were strong and sturdy fellows, who looked as if they could stand a good deal of hard work, and hard fighting, too, before giving in. But they certainly did not wear a very soldier-like appearance, for all that; they moved heavily and clumsily, and handled their muskets as if they had been more used to ploughs and spades than weapons of war.

Awkward though they seemed, however, these very men were to be able, only a few years later, to give King Charles of Sweden (who was then thought to be the best soldier alive) such a beating that neither he nor his army ever meddled with Russia again. But as they were now, they made a poor figure enough; and so, no doubt, thought a big, red-haired man in Russian uniform, who, with his arms folded on his broad chest, and a scornful smile on his face, was watching half a dozen of them light a fire.

"Pretty fellows you are to call yourselves soldiers!" cried he, in broken Russian, "when you can hardly tell the butt of a gun from its muzzle, and don't even know how to kindle a fire yet. We manage things better in Silesia, where I was born and bred."

"Well, if your country is so much better than ours, why didn't you stay there?" asked one of the Russian recruits, sulkily.

"Because I was wanted here to make you Russian lubbers into soldiers," answered the Silesian, fiercely, "and a mighty hard job it is."

The recruit muttered something between his teeth, but did not venture to make any direct reply; for this Silesian, Michael Kratsch, was a noted bully, and the strongest man in the regiment, and any one who tried to argue with him generally ended by getting a broken head for his pains.

While Kratsch was still fuming at finding no one to vent his anger upon, a little drummer-boy, coming past with a can of water much too heavy for his thin arms, stumbled against him by accident. Like lightning, Big Michael faced round and dealt the poor little fellow a kick which sent him to the ground, screaming with pain, and causing him to spill every drop of the precious water that had cost so much trouble to bring.

An angry murmur ran through the group of Russians, and the Silesian turned savagely upon them.

"What are you growling at, dogs?" If you have anything to say to me, say it out. You ought to know by this time, I should think, that one honest Silesian is a match for half a dozen such as you!"

"Are you quite sure of that?" asked a deep voice behind him.

Every one looked round with a start, for nobody had noticed a soldier standing near the group, and listening to the Silesian's boastful talk with a smile.

The new comer picked up the little drummer-boy very tenderly, refilled his can from a bucket that stood near, and sent him away rejoicing. Then he came slowly up to the tall Silesian, and looked him full in the face.

Kratsch eyed the stranger from head to foot, and did not altogether like the look of him. His dress was nothing very grand,

to be sure, being simply the plain green coat of a Russian private, so soiled and threadbare that an old clothes man would scarcely have taken it as a gift. But he was as tall as Big Michael himself, while his huge limbs and brawny chest made such a show of strength that most people would have thought it much better to shake hands with him than to fight him.

"So," said the green-coated man, quietly, "one Silesian is a match for half a dozen Russians, eh? Well, I can see that he's their match at bragging, anyhow!"

The Russians chuckled at this unexpected hit, and one of them laughed outright. Kratsch's face flushed purple with rage, and for a moment he seemed just about to fly at the speaker's throat. But there was something in the stranger's bearing, and in the calm, steadfast glance of his keen, black eye, which cowed the fierce soldier, who drew back with a sullen growl.

"Well," said Green-coat, quietly, "we Russians have a saying that corn doesn't grow by talking. If you are a match, as you say, for any half dozen of us, let us see what you can do."

"Could you throw that stone farther than I can?" asked the Silesian, pointing to a heavy stone at his feet.

"I can better answer that when I have seen you throw it," replied Green-coat, as coolly as ever.

Michael Kratsch threw off his coat, and baring an arm as thick as an ordinary man's knee, hurled the stone seven good yards away.

The unknown threw, in his turn, so carelessly that he seemed hardly to exert himself at all; yet the stone fell more than a foot beyond Kratsch's mark.

The Russians raised a shout of triumph, and Michael's face grew black as midnight.

"Are you as nimble with your feet as with your hands?" growled he, through his set teeth.

"Try," answered Green coat, simply.

Kratsch pointed to a broad ditch a little behind them, and, taking a short run, shot through the air like an arrow. The ditch was fully fifteen feet wide from bank to bank, yet he alighted several inches beyond it.

"Pretty fair," said the unknown, smiling; "but I think I can match it."

And so he did, for his leap overpassed Kratsch's by six inches, at least. At the sight of the heavy Russian faces grinning from ear to ear over his discomfiture, the Silesian's eyes flashed fire.

"You haven't done with me yet," he roared, "smart though you think yourself. Dare you wrestle a fall with me?"

Without a word, the stranger threw off his coat and stepped forward.

It was a grand and terrible sight to see the two giants strain their mighty limbs, and seize each other with their iron arms, both faces growing suddenly hard and stern as they grappled. Every man among the lookers-on held his breath as that great struggle began.

Thrice did the Silesian make a tremendous effort to throw his enemy, with a strength that seemed able to tear up an oak by the roots. But the Russian, though shaken, stubbornly kept his feet, until Kratsch paused, breathless and utterly spent.

Then the watching eyes all around saw the stranger's arms tighten suddenly, and Big Michael's huge, broad back bend slowly in. Furiously he struggled against the overmastering clutch, but he had no more chance than an ox in the coils of a boa. At last the unknown lifted him fairly off his feet, and hurled him backward with such force that he fell with a dull crash against a large stone behind him, and lay stunned and motionless.

Just then was heard a cry of "There he is! There he is!" and several richly dressed men, running up to the spot, bowed reverently to the green-coated soldier.

"We have been looking for your Majesty," said one of them, "to give you these dispatches, which a courier has just brought from Moscow."

At the word "Majesty" the Russian recruits all fell on their knees, considerably startled to find that this shabby-coated private was no other than the Czar himself—Peter the Great of Russia.

"Up with you, lads!" cried Peter; "kneel to no one but God. You are Russian soldiers, and I'm your general—that's all."

Then he turned to Kratsch, who lay groaning on the ground, with his left arm broken.

"I'll forgive thee this time, fellow," said the Czar; "but if I ever catch thee ill-treating a child again, look out! As

for these soldiers of mine at whom you laugh, within five years they shall be the wonder of all Europe."

And so they were.—Harper's Young People.

QUEER CONVEYANCES.

Some birds are known to fly long distances carrying their young on their backs. Small birds take passage across the Mediterranean Sea on the backs of larger and stronger ones. They could not fly so far. Their strength would give out and they would drop in the water. Along the northern shore of the sea, in autumn, these little birds assemble to wait the coming of cranes from the north, as people wait for the train at a railroad station. With the first cold blast the cranes arrive, flock after flock. They utter a peculiar cry, as of warning or calling. It answers the same purpose as the ringing of the bell when the train is about to start. The small birds understand it. They get excited. They hasten aboard, scrambling for places. The first to come get the best seats. If the passengers are too many, some will have to flit back to the hedges till the next train. How they chatter good-byes—those who go and those who stay. No tickets have they, but all the same they are conveyed safely. Doubtless the great birds like this warm covering for their backs. In this way the small birds pay their fare. And it is these last who must be out in the wet if it storms. The little passengers are of different species, like Americans, Irish, Germans and Chinese traveling together in cars or steamships. Their journey takes them through the air, high above the wide sweep of waters. They are close companions on the way. By and by they reach the beautiful south country. There they build nests and sing sweetly, as they build here and sing for us in our happy summer time. Indeed, God cares for the sparrows.—Anon.

THE CROOKED TREE.

"Such a cross old woman as Mrs. Barnes is! I never would send her jelly or anything else again," said Molly Clapp, setting her basket hard down on the table. "She never even said 'Thank you,' but 'set the cup on the table, child, and don't knock over the butter.' I don't your mother come herself instead of offending you? I'll be dead one of these days, and then she'll wish she had been a little more neighborly. I never want to go there again, and I shouldn't think you would."

"Molly! Molly! come quick and see Mr. Daws straighten the old cherry tree!" called Tom through the window. And old Mrs. Barnes was forgotten as Molly flew out over the green to the next yard.

Her mother watched with a good deal of interest the efforts of two stout men as, with stout ropes, they strove to pull the crooked tree this way and that; but it was of no use.

"It's as crooked as the letter S, and has been for twenty years. You're just twenty years too late, Mr. Daws," said Joe as he dropped the rope, and wiped the sweat from his face.

"Mother," said Molly, as she stood by the window again at her mother's side, "I know now what is the matter with old Mrs. Barnes. She needn't try to be pleasant and kind now, for she's like the old tree: it's twenty years too late."

"It's never too late, with God's help, to try to do better; but my little girl must begin now to keep back harsh words and unkind thoughts. Then, she will never have to say, as Joe said about the tree, 'It was twenty years too late.'"—Child's World.

LANGUAGE OF ANIMALS.

Language and the power of speech are gifts of a wise Creator. By these men convey their thoughts to one another.

God has given a similar power to animals. They cannot talk as men do, yet they are able to tell each other many things about their daily life; and some animals, as the parrot and magpie, can utter distinct words. Insects talk by signs and use their antennae or feelers for this purpose. This is the way bees and ants hold conversation with each other. The higher order of animals use sounds and motions and other signs by which they can be understood, although their language may not always be intelligible to us. A swallow scolds at an enemy, but greets its young with a tone of affection. A goose hisses when angry, but cackles when happy. The rooster makes a peculiar noise to call the hens when he has found a store of food; the mother hen in like

manner calls her chickens. Dogs have a bark of pleasure, of defiance, of anger. The horse has a neigh of recognition, and an expression of alarm as well as of sorrow. The sheep has for its lamb a warning bleat, a call of recognition, and a mournful tone when in distress or when its lamb is lost. Cows moo in a tone which plainly calls for food when hungry, and bellow in a distressing manner if an accident befalls their young.

Birds make a loud and piteous cry of alarm calling others to their help, when their nests are attacked by snakes. The blackbird screams when in danger, sings when pleased, and has a sharp note when suddenly surprised. Magpies show anger, express pleasure and gratitude, and will even make a noise like a kiss. Foxes bark to warn their young, yelp when hungry, and make a melancholy cry in pain. The chamois on the watch warns his fellows by a long whistle; he then stops, looks around, whistles afresh, and repeats this from time to time. When he sees anything alarming he skips away. Cats have a mew which plainly asks for food or drink, or whatever else they may wish. They purr when petted or stroked, to show their gratitude and comfort; they growl when troubled; they hiss when in fear or when they see an object of dread; they croo over their young as a sign of their affection.—Illustrated Treasury.

WHOSE HAND?

Sydney Dayre.

"Yes, baby is waking—did ever you see

So darling a wee little beauty as she?

Don't you wish you had such a sister?

Just look at her dimples, and look at the pink in her cunning round cheeks—it is brighter, I think,

For every time I have kissed her.

"So how she laughs, as she opens her eyes;

See them peep out, twice as blue as the skies;

Her hair is all shiny and curled.

She must be hand-painted—I heard mamma say

The prettiest things are all colored that way.

And she's the sweetest of all in the world."

HOW THE GREAT STATUE WAS MADE.

Charles Barnard has contributed to the July St. Nicholas a very graphic and popular account of Bartholdi's great Statue of Liberty, from which we make the following extract: "In the first place, there had to be a sketch or model. This was a figure of the statue in clay, to give an idea of how it would look. The public approved of this model, and then the first real study of the work was made,—a plaster statue, just one-sixteenth the size of the intended statue.

"The next step was to make another model just four times as large, or one-fourth the size of the real statue. This quarter-size model being finished, then came the task of making the full-size model in plaster. But this had to be made in sections. For instance, the first section would include the base on which the figure stood, the feet and the hem of the garment. The next section would include a circle quite round the long flowing dress, just above the hem. The third section would stand above this and show more of the folds of the dress, and reach part way up to the knee. In like manner, the whole figure would be divided into sections.

"The quarter-size model was first divided in this way, and then to lay out the full-size plan it was only necessary to make a plan of each section four times as large as the section actually was in the model. Every part of the model was covered with marks or dots for guides, and by measuring from dot to dot, increasing the measurement four times, and then transferring it to the larger model, an exact copy just four times as large was made. For each of these large sections, however, there had to be a support of some kind, before the plaster could be laid on. Having marked on the floor an outline plan of the enlarged section, a wooden frame-work was built up inside the plan. Then upon this frame-work plaster was roughly spread. It soon resembled, in a rude way, the corresponding section of the quarter-size model, but was four times as large. Then the workmen copied in this pile of plaster every feature of this model section, measuring and measuring, again and again, from dot to dot, correcting by means of plumb-lines, and patiently trying and retrying till an exact copy—only in proportions four times as large—was attained.

"The great irregularity of the drapery made it necessary to put three hundred marks on each section, besides twelve hundred smaller guidemarks, in order to insure an exact correspondence in proportion between the enlarged sections of the full-

size model and the sections of the quarter-size model. Each of these marks, moreover, had to be measured three times on both models, and after that came all the remeasurements, to prove that not a single mistake had been made.

"When these sections in plaster had been completed, then came the work of making wooden molds that should be exact copies both in size and modeling of the plaster. These were all carefully made by hand. It was long, tedious, and difficult. Each piece was a mold of a part of the statue, exactly fitting every projection, depression, and curve of that portion of the figure or drapery. Into these wooden molds sheets of metal were laid, and pressed or beaten down till they fitted the irregular surfaces of the molds. All the repoussé, or hammered work, was done from the back, or inside, of the sheet. If the mold is an exact copy of a part of the statue, it is easy to see that the sheet of metal, when made to fit it, will, when taken out and turned over, be a copy of that part of the statue.

"These sheets were of copper, and each was from one to three yards square. Each formed a part of the bronze statue, and of course no two were alike.

"In this complicated manner, by making first a sketch, then a quarter-size model, then a full size model in sections, then hundreds of wooden copies, and lastly by beating into shape three hundred sheets of copper, the enormous statue was finished. These three hundred bent and hammered plates, weighing in all eighty-eight tons, form the outside of the statue. They are very thin, and while they fit each other perfectly, it is quite plain that if they were put together in their proper order they would never stand alone. These hammered sheets make the outside of the statue; but there must be also a skeleton, a bony structure inside, to hold it together. This is of iron beams, firmly riveted together, and making a support to which the copper shell can be fastened."

Pleasantries.

"I shall fight it out on this lyin' if it takes all summer," remarked the political stump speaker as he sent to headquarters for more "doctored facts."

Stable-keeper: "By-the-way, shall I put in an extra buffalo?" English Stranger: "Couldn't you let me 'ave an 'orse, you know? Er-er-rather not drive a buffalo first time, you know?"

"Were you ever caught in a sudden squall?" asked an old yachtsman of a worthy citizen. "Well, I guess so!" responded the good man. "I have helped to bring up eight babies."

Wife (anxiously)—"What did that young lady observe who passed us just now?" Husband (with a smile of calm delight)—"Why, my love, she observed rather a good-looking man walking with quite a plain-looking female—that's all. Ahem!"

"No, indeed! I wasn't afraid of the bug," said Miss Fussanfeather, after she had recovered from her fainting spell at the church picnic the other day; "but I knew such a horrible shade of green wouldn't harmonize with my new pink dress."

T. G. Appleton, who died recently, once advertised a fine horse for sale, "for no other reason than that his owner wished to leave Boston." The inner facts were that the horse always refused to go over a bridge, and that it was impossible to get out of Boston without going over a bridge.

"Arabella, do you doubt my love?" "No, Alphonso; why should I?" "Listen, then. I have taken a solemn vow, and you must aid me in its fulfillment." "With my life! What is it?" "I have solemnly sworn to eat no more ice-cream this season, Arabella." "Ah, Alphonso, you shall not find me lacking courage. I will aid you to keep your vow. I will eat your share as well as my own."

"Whar' ye bin?" he asked, as the other boy suddenly came around the corner. "To the doctor's!" "Fur yer mother?" "No, fur me." "What ails you?" "Tongue all coated. See there!" "What does that mean?" "Heaps!" chuckled the other. "That means rhubarb to begin on, and loaf sugar, sweet cake, a velocipede, roller skates and a jack-knife before I get through! Don't you wish you was me?"

THE MESSENGER.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1884.

WHERE SHALL THEY BE EDUCATED?

We judge from what has already been published in our columns upon the subject and from manuscripts yet in hand that the question of how and where the future ministers in our Church are to be educated will be thoroughly ventilated. There can be no objection to this if the discussion instead of degenerating into strifes that may prevent unity of action, matures some plan that will best accomplish the end in view.

We may have something to say in review of the subject when our correspondents are done. Meanwhile we would remind our brethren of the directions given in the Cook Books, "First catch your chicken." The impression now seems to prevail that there will be a tremendous rush for the ministry, and that the only question is how are these candidates of various grades to be housed and prepared for their work? Yet we see no indications that many feel impelled to preach the Gospel, and we fear the possibility that the outcome of the talk may be more empty schools. If the boys and men are forth-coming, we have no doubt as to the provision that will be made for them.

THE CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTOR LOGIC.

Our much respected and good-humored, but unhappy, contemporary, the *Christian Instructor*, does not think that the one hundred and fiftieth Psalm enjoins the use of instrumental music, and talks of sending a missionary to us to teach us in regard to the action of the United Presbyterian General Assembly in 1883 and 1884 on the subject. It says the majority of the Assembly contended only that the use of instruments was a permitted help to worship, not the worship itself. We had no misunderstanding in regard to that, but the restatement of the case only seems to make the *Instructor's* unrelenting protests against the ruling of the Assembly all the worse. Our contemporary says that to be consistent we must praise God in the dance as well as with the trumpet and the timbrel. Well, if it is in the Bible, how are we to get out of it? The rhythmical motion of David before the Ark, though perhaps in better time, was in moral quality about on the jumping of a live Methodist at camp-meeting, and that is not considered out of the way by a great many good people. We accept the consequence of the *Instructor's* logic, and think it would be better religion to dance as the Psalmist danced than to seek to rend the body of Christ because a majority of the United Presbyterian Assembly has decided that an "organ" may be used as a help to the worship of God.

We get over the fence with which the *Instructor* tries to hedge our path by marching right through it. But perhaps our esteemed contemporary had better send its missionaries to the eleven stubborn jurors who decided this matter in the highest court of its own Church.

MEETING AT MARBURG.

Rev. James I. Good writes from Belfast: "There is to be a meeting of the representatives of the Reformed Church of Germany at Marburg on August 13th, 1884. It is a meeting called, not by the State, but by individual pastors, who are anxious to unite the scattered Reformed congregations of Germany into closer unity. Rev. Dr. Brandes, president of the Consistory of Lower Saxony, a delegate to the Belfast Alliance, stated, in one of its meetings, that there were a million and a half of Reformed people in Germany, but they are scattered all over that great land, some in Pomerania and Silesia in the East, others in East Friesland in the North, in Bavaria in the South, and along the Rhine in the West. It is to be hoped that these scattered Reformed congregations will be gathered together so that they can assist each other and be a power in Germany to-day as they have been in the past. It is expected that Rev. Dr. Ebrard, of Erlan-

gen, will open the meeting at Marburg. We hope that some of our delegates to Belfast will be able to attend this meeting, so that they may convey, if not officially, at least personally, the greetings of the daughter Church in America to the mother Church in the Fatherland."

DEATH OF MRS. ALMIRA LINCOLN PHELPS.

This remarkable and estimable woman died at her residence in Baltimore, Md., on the 15th inst., the ninety-first anniversary of her birth. She was a distinguished teacher and author, and directly or indirectly exercised a moulding influence over thousands of the best educated women of the land. She with her sister, Mrs. Willard, may be said to have inaugurated the higher grade of schools for girls in the country. Her valuable help in Troy Seminary and her subsequent work as Principal of Patapsco Female Institute, placed her in the front rank of educators. She wrote several books upon Natural Science, as well as other works treating of subjects of a higher nature. All of them became text books in many schools of the land. She once told the writer of this notice, that she was impelled to this work only by a demand for something of the kind and not by any selfish ambition.

It would be hard to estimate the power that has gone forth from that one mind and heart; and it was all directed to the true elevation of her sex. She was decidedly Christian in all of her teachings and did much to promote refined taste. The decided stand she took against female suffrage a few years ago by placing womanhood on its proper plane, and the support she elicited from the true mothers and daughters of the land kept our national legislature from committing itself to a false superficial issue, and on that account if no other her memory will be held in grateful remembrance.

Mrs. Phelps retained her mental vigor to the end of her life. She had a remarkable faculty of recalling to mind her pupils, and manifested great interest in them. They and many others will remember her with filial love. Some lives leave a beautiful after-glow like the tints on the evening sky when the sun has gone down.

Some one writing to the New York *Evangelist* about the late General Assembly at Saratoga, says: "The excessive wordiness of the ministry in contrast with the silence of the elders, struck me forcibly. One of the former class would rise 'just to say a single word,' and would talk for twenty minutes. When, however, an elder did speak he spoke briefly and to the point. In short, while our brethren of the sacred office had the most eloquence, the elders had the most common-sense."

The Chicago *Interior* quotes this and adds this remark: "But there were a hundred or more of ministers who did not speak at all. Ought not that to be put into the other scale? There is always some one in an Assembly who will tie his oratorical gong to a post on the platform, and then rush up to strike it every time he can get at it; but he ought not to be counted against all of his cloth. A zoologist placed a carp in an aquarium in which there was a clear glass partition, and beyond it he placed a minnow. That carp bruised his head against that glass many times a day for six months. He never obtained a taste of minnow, of course, but he could not resist the impulse to dart at it. That carp was as unfortunate in his respective faculties as the talking man at the Assembly."

A reporter for a secular paper who has had vast opportunity for observation, told us some time ago, that there are in every ecclesiastical assembly, a few men who answer to the above description.

THE CHILDREN IN CHURCH.

Spurgeon says: "The question is often asked how shall we get our working classes to attend public worship. The answer may be supplied by an incident of my boyhood. On the mantle shelf of my grandmother's best parlor, among other marvels, was an apple in a phial. It quite filled up the body of the bottle, and my wondering inquiry was, 'How could it have got into its place?' By stealth I climbed a chair to see if the bottom would unscrew, or if there had been a join in the glass throughout the length of the phial. I was satisfied by careful observations that neither of these theories could be supported, and the apple remained to me an enigma and a mystery. But as it was said of that other wonder, the source of the Nile—

'Nature well known no mystery remains,'—so was it here. Walking in the garden

I saw a phial placed on a tree bearing within it a tiny apple, which was growing within the crystal; now I saw it all; the apple was put into the bottle while it was little, and it grew there. Just so must we catch the little men and women who swarm our streets—we call them boys and girls—and introduce them within the influence of the Church, for alas! it is hard indeed to reach them when they have ripened in carelessness and sin."

While a student at College one of our Professors used to say: "Young gentlemen, habits are hard to break. Once formed they are apt to cling to you for life. Beware of bad habits! But recollect that what is true of these is also true of good habits. Form good habits and they will cling to you and be a source of continental strength and comfort."

Fathers and mothers, take the little ones to Church. If they get tired and sometimes go to sleep it is better that you should have them thus by your side in God's house, than that they should be at home, or on the street. They appreciate the services better than we oftentimes are willing to admit. And even if they do not understand much of the sermon (which is perhaps more the preacher's fault than theirs) they know the creed, the Lord's Prayer and other familiar forms of worship. The Lord is in His holy temple for them, as well as for adults. The subtle influences of the place, the Christian atmosphere which pervades the sanctuary, and the habit which thus grows upon them of always associating the Lord's day with the Lord's house will be of incalculable benefit to them. They will learn to go to Church as a matter of course. It will by and by seem unnatural to them to remain at home. Gradually they will become interested and you will have every reason to expect that they will give their hearts to the Savior, and become full communicant members of the Church. Good as is the Sunday School it cannot take the place of the Church. If you cannot go to Sunday School yourself, send them, but do not omit your duty and privilege of taking them to Church. G.

THE PARTING OF OLD FRIENDS.

We refer to two congregations, which, after having been joined together in one charge for one hundred and sixteen years, have just been separated. Zion Reformed Church, of Hagerstown, Md., was in early times the center of a number of congregations clustering round it. These from time to time fell off, until many years ago already, the Salem congregation situated four miles from Hagerstown, was the only one left remaining. These two congregations, then continued together until within the past week in peaceful and friendly association as members of the same charge. The relationship lasted long; there was no haste to dissolve the ancient union. Finally, however, it was felt that the time had arrived when the congregation at Hagerstown ought to receive the pastor's undivided time and attention; and in response to a memorial from the joint consistory of the charge, the Maryland Classis, at its last meeting, constituted said congregation a charge by itself, annexing the Salem congregation at the same time to the Second Reformed Church of Hagerstown, under the pastoral care of Rev. L. G. Kremer.

Thus has been dissolved, not without regret, a partnership of long standing. It is worthy of mention, not only because of its long continuance, but also because of the extreme kindness and friendliness of spirit by which it was characterized. The memory of man runneth not back to a time when the relation between the Consistories of these two congregations, or between the congregations themselves, was other than friendly. They never had any "words" between them; they were as brethren. Even the dissolution itself, which might so easily have produced friction and disturbance, was accomplished without any rupture of friendly relations. They parted as friends part, when sadly but affectionately they shake hands and say "Good-bye."

The outward surroundings and the inward spirit of the Salem congregation have been in accordance with its name. The Church stands in a secluded and peaceful spot in the country where, on a Sabbath afternoon in Summer, nothing could surpass the air of Sabbath stillness and rest. It has also been a congregation of peace. Years ago, it was a most interesting congregation. Liberal-minded and large-hearted men and women were there; full of the Holy Ghost, fervent in worship, loving the Church and her institutions; abundant in good works. In course of time, the population of the neighborhood

entirely changed; the old and original families disappeared, and, in consequence, Salem underwent many vicissitudes and adversities. Of the old congregation but a handful are left to bear witness to what the church once was. Meanwhile, however, the elements of a new congregation have gradually been collecting together at Salem, there have been signs of new vitality and promise of new growth. There is hope that, in its new relations, and under the care of the active and faithful pastor to whose care it is now committed, its ancient glory may be revived.

Every parting of friends is sad. The dissolution of this old alliance awakens many memories and many thoughts. All outward things and relations change and pass away; let us take comfort in the thought that we belong to the one undivided Church of Jesus Christ which shall never pass away. The name of the Salem congregation has seldom appeared in the columns of the MESSENGER; we are not able to take leave of it without these words of affectionate adieu; we say Farewell, may peace ever be, as peace ever has been, within thy walls! J. S. K.

To several inquiries made by Stated Clerks, we would say that we are publishing the Minutes of the Several Classes as fast as possible, taking them in the order in which they came to us; except when the length of some of them has required us to lay them back for want of sufficient space.

W. U. Hensel, Esq., of Lancaster, Pa., is to write the biography of Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks, Democratic candidate for Vice President of the United States. Mr. Hensel will do his work well, but in these exciting days all that he writes will be apt to be judged by men who look at it through spectacles of different colors.

It seems now to be an undisputed fact that the cholera which has broken out in France and been so fatal in Toulon and Marseilles is of the deadly Asiatic type. The investigations of Dr. Koch who has made the subject a specialty prove too, that it may be transmitted, and that there is no telling to what extent it may spread. It may reach this country. But with good sanitary regulations and scientific remedies which in time of an catch up with and abate disease, this should only induce precaution and not panic.

Some time ago the foreign papers in speaking of the floods which devastated Ohio, located that state in Philadelphia, and now copies of the *Northern Whig* which come to us from the office of that paper in Belfast, Ireland, are directed as if Philadelphia were in Montreal.

We hear from across the water that we were right in saying that the "Ludgate Circus" in London, to which some of the brethren wished their letters sent, is not a place where double bare-back equestrian performances are given. We repeat that preachers don't go to circuses of the Barnum kind. Might take a little child or a country brother to see Jumbo or the white elephant, but that's all. It is well enough to prevent misapprehensions. Dr. Bausman and others are welcome to the explanation we have given to the public.

THE CHAPEL IN JAPAN.

The following additional pledges of \$10 each have been received: from Missionary Society of St. Peter's Reformed church, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.; Children's Missionary Society of the Reformed church, Mercersburg; Elder W. H. Schall, Phila.; St. Jacob's S. S. South Bend, Pa.; Wapwallopen Union S. S.; Trinity S. S., Everett, Pa.; St. John's S. S., Clear Spring, Md.; S. S. of First Reformed church, Hagerstown, Md. Mrs. Chidsey sends check for \$30 from the Infant S. S., Third street congregation, Easton, Pa.

Communications.

VACATION RAMBLES.

It may not be uninteresting to some of the readers of the MESSENGER to join us in a trip over our Great Lakes, with their fresh water and cool breezes. After casting about for some time for a pleasant way of spending a part of the "long vacation," I decided on this, and accordingly left Philadelphia, June 23, in the 8:30 train, stopping off at New Brunswick to see my friend, Prof. Shumway, who is the editor of *Latine*, and has recently been appointed adjunct professor of Latin in this venerable college—Rutgers. It is beautifully situated on high ground, near the railway station, and, like our institutions at Lancaster, consists of Academy, College and Seminary. The buildings are large and substantial, several of them quite old, with an elegant new library building. This library is said to be very rich in Dutch colonial history and theology, and is a perfect model of order and neatness. The librarian is a thin, long old gentleman, who sits and stands as both upright as any of the neatly bound volumes on his shelves; and I am told when a person takes out a volume he often requests him to wrap it up nicely in paper while reading it, that the cover may not be soiled.

At New York I take one of the elegant Hudson River Steamers for Albany—the *Drew*, which is a perfect floating palace, with a first-class restaurant, good beds, and all a person has to do to sleep and arrive at Albany is to go to bed—so nice and cool; one only fully realizes these comforts afterwards, say in some close hotel bed-room, or still closer sleeping car berth.

After leaving Albany, with a delay of several days at an intermediate point where my companion joined me, we travel from Utica by the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R., stopping first at Niagara, once more to look on this wonderful work of nature. I shall not attempt a description of the Falls, but will instead offer a little good advice which this, and a former visit to the Falls seven years ago, have enabled me to gather. There are many points of interest in the vicinity of the Falls, but they do not belong to the Falls, and unless you are prepared to spend ten times as much money as you had intended on leaving home, you must confine yourself strictly to the Falls; you need not go into the "Cave of the Winds," nor "Under the Falls," nor to the "Whirlpool Rapids," nor down any of the half dozen "inclined planes." This will save you say ten dollars. Then you want a good supply of half-dollars, for this is a very convenient coin, and current anywhere here. By an ingenious arrangement, every place from which the Falls can possibly be seen requires an admission fee of "fifty cents," except Prospect Park; you can get a partial view of the American Falls from there for twenty-five cents. The "hack men" are very importunate and will want to take you to ever so many places "you will regret not having seen." Better not go; there will be great regret if you do. Contrary to my advice, we mostly went; so I speak from experience. We went down the inclined plane below the Falls and were rowed across the seething mass of water to the Canadian side. This gives a fine view of the Falls, but is apt to make one feel a little timid. We were a little afraid to venture across, at first, but were reassured by the boatman who said, "if there were any danger, I wouldn't go myself." It was only after getting clear of the shore, and into the billows, that it dawned upon us that in case of an accident our boatman would be sure to look out for number one. Fortunately nothing happened, and we are still safe. Mrs. Capt. Webb is on exhibition at the Rapids, near the scene of her husband's tragic death, but it costs nothing extra to see her. She dresses in mourning.

At Buffalo we take one of the steamers of the Lake Superior Transit Co. for our trip over the Lakes to Duluth. This is a most delightful trip. I can recommend it to any minister or teacher who has a little over one hundred dollars to spend, and wants to be perfectly comfortable and happy for about two weeks. My letter is perhaps already too long, and so I will reserve what further I have to say till my next. S. M. O.

ST. PAUL, MINN., July 11, 1884.

LETTER FROM LANCASTER.

Since College Commencement is past our city has moved on the even tenor of its way in comparative quiet. Our visitors have gone, the students have returned to their respective homes to enjoy vacation, and, with Jupiter Tonans traveling in foreign lands, the temple on our Olympus seems deserted. True, Neptune is still here, and genial "Pluto" and some of the minor deities are hovering near; but the council-chambers of the gods are empty, and banquets are not thought of.

Of the past year, therefore, we have only the faintest recollections; but we are beginning to look forward to the future, and we look forward with hope and encouragement. The prospect of a large accession of students in both College and Seminary is expected to be larger than usual.

The most striking improvement is apparent in the Academy Building. It was sadly in need of repairs; and now, renovated, and thoroughly gone over by carpenters, painters and cabinet makers, it looks like a new building. The new rector has an eye to beauty and neatness, as well as convenience and utility, and when all the arrangements are completed, as soon they will be, the accommodation will be ample and the school will offer exceptional advantages and facilities for acquiring a good education for practical life or through preparation for college.

Yesterday, Thursday, July 10, a congregational and Sunday-school picnic was held conjointly by the First Reformed and St. Paul's Reformed Churches of Lancaster at Rocky Springs. The weather was delightful, and every opportunity for enjoyment was at hand, so that the day may well be remembered as one fraught with joy and gladness, and that sweetness which is born of concord and love. R.

LANCASTER, July 10, 1884.

VIRGINIA CLASSIS.

Virginia Classis convened in annual sessions in the Reformed church of Martinsburg, W. Va., June 4th, 1884, at 7.45 P. M.

The opening sermon was delivered by Rev. A. R. Kremer. Theme—"Zwingli and the Reformation," based on the words, "Of whom the world is not worthy." Heb. 11:38.

After the sermon an organization was effected by the election of Rev. Geo. A. Whitmore, president; Rev. B. F. Bausman, vice-president. Rev. B. R. Carnahan is stated clerk.

The whole of Thursday was taken up in hearing the reports from the several pastoral charges. These reports show a healthy, vigorous and productive state of affairs, generally, within the bounds of Classis. But one item called for anything like special action, and this is the locating of a church in the St. Jacob's congregation of the Edinburg charge. This was referred to a special committee which reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to go upon the ground, hear the views of those interested, and after considering the whole matter carefully, to authoritatively determine the location of said church, and that the Edinburg charge be directed to bear the necessary expenses of the committee.

The committee called for consists of Revs. Dr. S. N. Callender, E. Welty, and Elder W. H. Bardsley.

Classis dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. E. Welty, M. D., and the St. John charge, which is now vacant. Revs. S. L. Whitmore, A. J. Bowers, and B. R. Carnahan were appointed a committee of supply, and assist the charge in securing a pastor.

After hearing the report of Student James W. Myers, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the pastor of the Middlebrook charge be authorized, if deemed expedient, to effect an arrangement between the St. John's charge and Mr. Jas. W. Myers, so as to receive his services for the charge during the summer vacation. Bro. Myers to be under the direction of Rev. S. L. Whitmore.

A call from Harrisville charge to Rev. E. Welty was read, and the following action taken, viz.:

Resolved, That the call to Rev. E. Welty be confirmed and that a committee of three be appointed to install him pastor, provided the \$400 salary be guaranteed by the consistories of said charge.

The committee of installation consists of Revs. H. Talheim, C. W. Summey, and Geo. A. Whitmore.

The following charges are vacant: St. John, Woodstock and Winchester.

An appeal was made by the pastor of Middlebrook church to relieve him of a debt resting upon Grace church, Middlebrook, Va. This appeal received the following action:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Classis be authorized to loan to the Trustees of Grace Reformed Church, Middlebrook, Va., the sum of two hundred dollars for one year, without interest, to be secured by lien on their real estate.

Beneficiary Education.—Inasmuch as there is a paucity of ministers in the Reformed church, this Classis is endeavoring to fill up the ranks by securing suitable young men who may prepare themselves for the work of the Master.

The application of Robert L. Coffman, made one year ago, was renewed and was referred to a committee consisting of Revs. E. Welt, M. D., B. F. Bausman and Elder Charles P. Muthael, which is empowered to inquire into his case, and if assured by a certificate from outside Dr. C. or Prof. F., of Baltimore, Md., then the committee is authorized to receive him and grant him an appropriation of \$150 per annum, said amount to be paid out of the fund in the hands of the Treasurer.

The names of Philip Harner and Jss. Kelly were proposed for aid. These young men were referred to a special committee consisting of Revs. Dr. S. N. Ollender, Jos. Loose, and A. J. Bowers, which is empowered with power to accept them, if their judgment approves them and recommend them to the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, or to the Parent Board.

Missions.—The committee appointed one year ago to co-operate with the Board and to have the general supervision of Missions in this Classis, made quite a full and satisfactory report of the work committed them. We will not at tempt giving the report in full, but will take the liberty to extract that portion referring to Roanoke. Rev. C. J. Musser entered this field in the early part of February. The long delay had worked disadvantageously. The vantage ground had been lost. Others were already successfully working the field. The unsettled condition of things in the town—the fact that no suitable place could be had for public worship, the comparatively few Reformed members to be found, and these widely scattered, and other discouraging features, met the missionary at the very outset. But in the face of all, with a sincere desire and strong purpose to accomplish his mission, Bro. Musser at once set himself to task; but we regret to say, with such zeal and taxing of his physical strength, as at the end of three months, to totally unfit him for any kind of pastoral work. He was compelled to resign his commission as missionary at Roanoke. Your committee, as will also the church, most deeply regret this turn of things in the effort to establish a mission at Roanoke. Roanoke is now without a Reformed missionary.

We do not, with all the disadvantage at which we now are, regard the field as a hopeless one for the Reformed church. Even though there be but few members there of the Reformed faith as a nucleus for an organization, yet we are of the opinion that the Reformed, as well as other branches of the Christian Church, has a work to do for those who are not Reformed, and in so far Roanoke still challenges our attention.

The report was followed by the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be instructed to observe closely the progress of church affairs in Roanoke, and if needs be, to visit that place, with a view of renewing our missionary efforts there if advisable.

Resolved, That the Committee be directed to secure an examination of the prospects for the favorable establishment of a mission field in East Virginia and other parts, and that it be authorized to call upon our ministers to co-operate with them, and that the Treasurer of Classis be directed to pay the necessary expenses of said Committee.

The committee consists of Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, S. L. Whitmore and B. R. Carnahan. An appropriation of \$50 each was made to the Harrisville, Mill Creek and Timberville charges. The Committee on Missions recommended the cause of missions to the prayers and renewed efforts of the ministers and people, and urged the organization of missionary societies in every congregation. To advance this interest, it was

Resolved, That Classis be formed into two districts, styled the Northern and Southern Districts of Virginia Classis, for the purpose of holding missionary conventions during the ensuing classical year. The Northern District to embrace Woodstock, Harrisville, Winchester, Martinsburg, Shepherdstown, and Lovettsville charges. The Southern to consist of the charges south of Woodstock.

Rev. J. A. Hoffheins is chairman of the Northern District, and Rev. S. L. Whitmore of the Southern District, whose respective duty it is to arrange the programme, and appoint the time and place of meetings.

A very interesting missionary service was held on Sunday night, at which several earnest addresses were made.

A meeting in the interest of Sunday-schools was held on Thursday night, at which time the question, "How can we do more effective work for the Church through our Sunday-schools?" was ably discussed.

On Friday night, after having been sumptuously entertained, between 5 and 6 o'clock, in the dining-hall of the persons, by the ladies of the congregation, a well-filled church was royally entertained by Rev. Dr. Callender from his well-filled literary store house, on the subject of "Church work in general." Can't we have the same, Doctor, in a more permanent form in several articles for the MESSENGER? If such a feast of good things as that enjoyed in Martinsburg is the source of inspiration, we hope M.G. will not fail to have something of the kind. But we have our honest doubts whether it was the feast or the smiling faces. No wonder the two + 4 were sorry when Classis adjourned on Monday.

The Directory of Worship sent down by General Synod to Classis for approval was referred to a special committee consisting of Revs. B. R. Carnahan, S. L. Whitmore and Elder Charles P. Muthael, to report at an adjourned meeting of Classis.

Classis adjourned on Monday at 3:30 P. M., to meet in annual sessions in McShayesville, Rockingham county, Va., on Thursday after the third Wednesday in May, 1885, at 7:30 P. M.

STATISTICAL.

Statistics.—Ministers, 16; congregations, 27; members, 2149; members unconfirmed, 1167; baptisms, infants, 100; adults, 35; confirmed, 85; by certificate, 42; 42; communion, 180; dismissed, 14; excommunication, 1; deaths, 51; Sunday-school, 16; Sunday-school scholars, 945; students for the ministry, 1; benevolent purposes, \$1432; congregational purposes, \$10,081.

PHILADELPHIA CLASSIS.

Philadelphia Classis met in annual session Friday evening, June 6th, 1884, in St. Luke's Reformed Church, North Wales, Montgomery county, Pa. Nineteen ministers and twenty-one elders were present during the sessions. The sessions continued from Friday evening until Tuesday evening. The Editor-in-Chief of the MESSENGER has already given a glowing account

of the spirit and fellowship which characterized the meeting. It remains for us to give the outline of business transacted.

Rev. S. P. Manger was elected President; Rev. H. C. Spangler, Corresponding Secretary; Hon. H. Scheller re-elected Treasurer, and Rev. J. F. Butler re-elected Stated Clerk. Revs. Jos. F. Tuscarawas, Classis, and E. D. Wettach, Tuscarawas Classis, Synod of Ohio, S. M. K. Huber and L. C. Henry Gerhart, of Goshenhoppen Classis, N. Z. Snyder and J. M. Hartzell, of Toltickon Classis, Synod of the United States, and Elder Dr. Max Wiehle, of German Palia Classis, German Synod of the East, were present as advisory members.

The usual Standing Committees were appointed, who so efficiently did their work that but few of the reports required any amending. Revs. S. F. Lantry and C. W. Levan and Elder Jacob S. Bower were appointed a committee to arrange for the holding of Sunday school Conventions in the Peninsular District.

The attention of the members of the Second District, comprising the Philadelphia English Reformed Churches, was directed through its officers to the matter of holding Sunday school Conventions, and the brethren were earnestly requested to comply with the provisions of Classis in this respect.

Rev. C. W. Levan and Elder Bower were appointed Committee on Special Religious Services in the Peninsula, and the committees in the three other districts urgently requested to give greater attention to the work placed in their care. A special committee to whom had been referred the Directory of Worship reported that in order to give the members of Classis an opportunity to examine the Directory of Worship, the matter of its adoption or rejection be deferred until our next annual meeting.

Several years ago a mission was organized at Lansdale, the church building being erected on the territory of Philadelphia Classis, but the congregation supplied by Rev. H. F. Seiple, of Toltickon Classis. Thus the church occupied a sort of dual relation, and was occasion of considerable correspondence between the Classes. Philadelphia Classis has finally decided "that after holding a conference with brethren appointed by Toltickon Classis, and viewing the Lansdale church in the light of its history and present facts, and considering that it was begun and continued by Toltickon Classis, which Classis annually contributes \$1000 to the cause of missions although it has no mission under its own direct care, it be resolved that Philadelphia Classis cede the territory of Lansdale Church to Toltickon Classis in toto, and that all claims on the Lansdale church by the Philadelphia Classis shall cease when the said church is received by Toltickon Classis."

In connection with the matter of cession of territory, the following request for territory, was made by Philadelphia Classis:

WHEREAS, A considerable portion of the membership of St. Luke's Church, Treppe, lives in the bounds of Goshenhoppen Classis, in the direction of Limerick Station; and the interests of the Church would be furthered by their organization into a congregation; therefore,

Resolved, That Goshenhoppen Classis be, and hereby is, petitioned to cede to Philadelphia Classis so much of its territory as may be necessary for the organization of a church in, or near, the village of Limerick Station, Montgomery county, Pa.

We feel encouraged to make this request in view of the fact that some years ago this Classis made a similar concession to Goshenhoppen Classis, that the interests of our common Zion might be better advanced.

Philadelphia Classis put upon record its regard for Father Knipe, as follows:

1. That it holds Father Knipe in the highest esteem, as a man and as a minister, and rejoices in the abundant labors he has been permitted to perform for the Church of Jesus Christ during a period of more than fifty years.

2. That it hereby tenders its sympathy to the venerable man of God in any sufferings through which he may be called to pass in his declining years, and at the same time expresses its full faith that the grace of the Gospel which he has proclaimed to others will sustain him in every trying hour and crown him with victory in the end.

3. That while Father Knipe has the prayers of his brethren at all times, we deem it a privilege and a duty to suspend our regular business at this hour to offer special supplications for him."

In accordance with the suggestion of the above third paragraph, the business of Classis was suspended, and fervent prayer was offered up in Father Knipe's behalf. Remarks were also made by a number of the brethren, and hymns 276 and 507 were sung. The hymns sung have always been dear to Father Knipe, and in view of the circumstances attending their singing at the time, possess a peculiar force and pathos.

As relating to Rev. C. W. Shultz, another aged father in the Classis, the following record was made: "That the Classis extends to him its sympathy in the midst of his infirmities, praying for him that although the outward man may perish, the inward man may be renewed day by day, and that he may attain to the crown of glory."

One of the members of Classis, Rev. A. B. Stoner, together with his family, having passed through deep waters of affliction during the classical year, Classis "resolved that the Christian sympathy of this body be extended to our beloved brother, the Rev. A. B. Stoner, in view of the severe afflictions through which he has during the year been called to pass, and that we here-with invoke upon him and his blessing and the sustaining grace of our common Heavenly Father."

At the joint request of Brother Stoner and the Consistory of Grace Reformed Church, the pastoral relation between him and the congregation was dissolved, dissolution to go into effect July 1st, 1884.

Rev. E. D. Wettach, of Tuscarawas Classis, Synod of Ohio, was received into membership with this Classis, and his name entered upon the roll. A call to him from St. Matthew's Reformed Church, Chester county, Pa., was confirmed, and Revs. J. H. Sechler, S. P. Manger and M. S. Rowland were appointed a Committee of Installation. At the request of St. Paul's Reformed Church, Chester county, permission was granted Brother Wettach to supply said church.

Favorable action was taken upon all the items referred by Synod. Revs. C. W. Levan, S. P. Manger, H. M. Kieffer, D. Van Horne, D. D., and Elder T. Lyman Hoover were elected as the Executive Missionary Committee for this Classis, in accordance with the action of Synod calling for such Committee in each Classis.

Classis, believing that all possible aid should be rendered to the missions within our bounds, and their contingent expenses be made as little as can be, "Resolved, That hereafter whenever a special meeting of Classis is necessary to be called to attend to any matter or matters relating to any mission or missionary of this Classis, the expenses incurred by such meeting shall be paid out of the treasury of Classis;

"Or whenever a special meeting embraces one or more items in its circular relating to a mission or missionary, the pro rata of expense of such meeting that would fall upon the mission or missionary, shall be paid out of the treasury of Classis."

Classis gave its judgment "that all monies contributed for contingent expenses should be included in the column in the statistical table

devoted to congregational purposes, and not in that devoted to general benevolence."

The action of Classis last year with regard to Temperance was reiterated.

The name "St. John's Reformed Church," West Philadelphia, was changed to that of the "Reformed Church of the Strangers."

The movement of organizing in our congregations, societies among the ladies for "Woman's Work in Foreign Missions" was heartily commended, and attention of congregations called to the matter.

Following are the delegates to the District Synod to convene in Potomac, October, 1884:—**Primarily**: Revs. D. E. Klopp, D. D., S. P. Manger, D. Van Horne, D. D., J. H. Sechler, H. M. Kieffer and Elders F. L. Hoover, Abram Schwenck, Henry B. Mall, L. C. Gerhart, W. K. Gresh.

Secondarily: Revs. W. C. Hendrickson, Geo. H. Johns, H. T. Spangler, J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., C. W. Levan, and Elders Davis Kimes, Martin Bushong, Thomas B. Geatrell, John B. Slaughter, Isaiah F. Snyder.

The First Reformed Church, Philadelphia, Pa., Thursday after Trinity, June 4th, 1885, at 8 o'clock P. M., were fixed upon as place and time of next annual meeting.

Resolution of thanks was tendered for hospitality; after which, with appropriate religious services, Classis adjourned.

Statistics are as follows: Ministers, 27; congregations, 26; members, 3,854; Unconfirmed, 1,246; infant baptisms, 123; adult baptisms, 77; confirmed, 217; excommunicated, 175; communion, 3,185; dismissed, 45; excommunication, 14; deaths, 61; Sunday-schools, 25; Sunday-school scholars, 3,873; benevolence, \$9,483; for congregational purposes, \$2,916; minutes of Synod, 175. **STATED CLERK.**

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF EAST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS.

East Susquehanna Classis met in Bloomsburg on the 4th of June, at half past seven o'clock, P. M. The opening sermon was preached by the retiring president, Rev. A. R. Hottenstein, from John 15: 15. The Classis was organized and the following officers elected: President, Rev. T. J. Hacker; stated clerk, Rev. O. H. Strunk; and corresponding secretary, Rev. T. S. Land.

Parochial reports were read by all the ministers with the exception of two who were detained by sickness.

On Thursday evening Rev. J. B. Kershner delivered an address on the necessity of educating young men for the Christian ministry. Mr. Edwin Muselman and Mr. R. F. Case were taken under the care of Classis as students for the ministry, and an appropriation of \$175 and \$200 respectively, made for their support at college and the seminary.

The claims of the West Philadelphia Mission were presented by Rev. G. H. Johnston, its pastor; and the ministers of Classis at once pledged him collections which will amount to at least \$350. The Treasurer reported \$1700 collected for home missions during the year. Besides this there was money sent to foreign missions, to Orphan's Home, to Theological Seminary, etc.

From the report of Committee on State of Religion and Statistics, we find that the benevolent contributions of Classis increased \$560 over last year. The increase in membership being 335.

On Friday evening Rev. T. S. Land preached in the Reformed Church. On Saturday Classis elected the following delegates to Synod:

Revs. O. H. Strunk, J. E. Millett, A. Houtz, W. C. Schaeffer, and S. C. Meckel, **primarily**; Revs. G. H. Johnston, W. C. Schaeffer, R. H. Hottenstein, T. S. Land, and J. B. Kershner, **secondarily**.

Elders Aaron Bressler, Dnl. Eisenhart, Philip Peters, J. W. Kelsey, and David Winnar, **primarily**; Elders J. C. Wenner, J. A. Heiney, Jacob Blasser, Joel Daniel, and William Landferl, **secondarily**.

On Saturday evening a missionary meeting was held and address delivered by Rev. F. K. Levan, Rev. T. S. Land and Rev. J. K. Millett. A collection was taken up for benefit of the mission in Japan. The preparatory sermon on Saturday afternoon was preached by Rev. S. Kuhn. On Sunday morning the holy communion was celebrated, and Rev. T. J. Hacker preached the sermon. On Sunday afternoon Sunday school services were held and addresses delivered by several ministers. Sunday evening Rev. J. K. Millett preached in the Reformed church. Ministers of Classis also supplied the pulpits, on Sunday, of the Methodist, Lutheran and Evangelical churches.

On Monday morning Father Rudolph Duenger, by previous invitation, gave the Classis some of his experience and reminiscences during his fifty years of ministerial life. A resolution, expressing thanks for his address and extending the prayers and sympathy of Classis to him in his old age, was unanimously adopted.

In view of the large missionary territory within the bounds of this Classis, and which is as yet undeveloped, the Classis only assumed \$1000 of the \$1234.84 apportioned by Synod for Missions. The Executive Committee on Missions, appointed by Classis, are instructed to visit missionary points, and if circumstances are favorable to organize congregations which will, in the future, be provided for by the Classis and Board.

The Classis appointed a committee of three to co-operate with other ecclesiastical bodies in petitioning our Legislature to amend our marriage laws that ministers, magistrates and others, performing the ceremony, may be protected against imposition and also to prevent, as far as possible, the growing evil of divorce which is decaying the institution of marriage and destroying the hallowed relations of the family.

Classis passed a resolution of thanks to the members of the congregation for their entertainment. Classis adjourned to meet next year in Christ church, Fayette, N. Y., on the 27th of May, 1885. The meetings of Classis were harmonious, the sermon interesting, and the association fraternal.

A CHURCH REMODELED.

During the pastorate of Rev. L. D. Steckel, the First Reformed Church of Potomac, has been making constant progress. He took charge of the congregation, at a time when its very existence hung to a slender thread. At this critical moment, the command of the Lord came, "Go forward." Both pastor and people, heard this divine message, and in humble faith and love they have been pressing onward until they can "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." Such are the changes that the Church will surely be known as the same building. Gothic windows and ornamental glass have taken the place of the square frames and curtains. The reading desk, pulpit and altar. These improvements have exceeded the financial ability of the members, but we are very thankful that the generous public came to their assistance. The formal re-opening services took place on the Fifth Sunday after Trinity, Rev. E. V. Gerhart, D. D., the venerable president of the Theological Seminary was present. Our dear brother has not lost his vigor, but continues to preach profound yet deeply impressive sermons. His discourses on this occasion will take root in

many hearts and we fondly believe his visit will be a blessing to the community.

During the week, preparatory services were held at which the various pastors of the town officiated. Since this congregation has taken a step forward, it is the earnest prayer of a fellow yoke-bearer, that the people will come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty, and rally around their zealous pastor, so that he and they may see of the travail of their souls and rejoice in the Lord of life and glory.

A. R. B.

Continued on Eighth Page.

NOTICE.

As our fiscal year closes July 30, 1884, we would be glad if those indebted to us in any way—on book or periodical account—will remit before that time.

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Miscellaneous.

REBECCA.

By Julia Wirt.

No aureole crowns her head, she folds no wing,
Yet her transparent soul irradiates
E'en now, the glory all-divine which waits,
In heaven upon the Children of the King.
How calm the steadfast sweetness of that eye,
When wisdom, all involved with tenderness,
Heeds all—loves all; nor loves except to bless,
And blessing, bears each earth-born soul on high.
Taught by her pure and gracious womanhood,
A thousand fainting souls have gathered
Strength
For self-renouncement, which bears fruit at
length,
In hidden heart's ease and the peace of God.
Rebecca! Rest of all, thou still dost smile,
And stay on earth to make it heaven the
while!

—Advance.

Selections.

To each of us there is a time set, and if by the
end of that time our task is not fulfilled, it can
never be fulfilled.—Kobbe.

Christianity means to the merchant that he
should be honest; to the judge it means that he
should be just; to the servant that he should be
faithful; to the schoolboy that he should be diligent;
to the street-sweeper that he should sweep
clean; to every worker that his work shall be
well done.

All truth is calm,
Refuge and rock and tower,
The more of truth the more of calm,
Its calmness is its power.
Calmness is truth,
And truth is calmness still:
Truth lifts its forehead to the storm,
Like some eternal hill.

—Bonar.

An idle word may be seemingly harmless in its
utterance; but let it be fanned by passion, let it
be fed with the fuel of misconception, of evil
intention, of prejudice, and it will soon grow into
a sweeping fire that will melt the chains of human
friendship, that will burn to ashes many
cherished hopes and blacken more fair names
than one.—Charles A. Dickey.

The church must grope her way into the alleys
and courts and purlieus of the city, and up the
broken staircase, and into the bare room, and be-
side the loathsome sufferer; she must go down
into the pit with the miner, into the forecastle
with the sailor, into the tent with the soldier,
into the shop with the mechanic, into the factory
with the operator, into the field with the farmer,
into the counting room with the merchant. Like
the air the church must press equally on all the
surfaces of society, like the sea, flow into every
nook of the shore-line of humanity; and like the
sun, shine on things foul and low as well as fair
and high, for she was organized, commissioned
and equipped for the moral renovation of the
whole world.—Bishop Simpson.

Science and Art.

Krupp has patented a flat-headed projectile.
It prevents glancing off when striking at a great
angle of inclination. To preserve the velocity a
point of wood or thin iron plate is attached, which
is shattered on striking.

Yellow pine, hard finished in oil, rivals in
beauty any wood that grows, is as susceptible of
as high a degree of polish, and is almost inde-
structible. Even hot grease will leave no stain
upon it. The probability is that it will be more
and more used for decorative purposes.

Prof. Sayce, who has lately returned from
Egypt, has brought with him sixty Phoenician,
forty-four Cypriot, and thirty-four Carian in-
scriptions, besides many in Greek, which date
from about the seventh century. Every day
increases our knowledge of these remote races
and times.

Some relics of Sir Joshua Reynolds were re-
cently exhibited at the Grosvenor Gallery, in
London, with a collection of his works. Among
them are his silver spectacles, a tortoise shell
snuff-box trimmed with gold, and three pen-and-
ink sketches, a perch, the interior of a library,
and a perspective done at eight years old on the
back of a Latin theme.

In a voyage from Rio Janeiro to Bordeaux
two French savants carefully investigated the
quality of sea air. They found in all instances
that over the open sea, at a distance from the
vessel, the air was singularly free from the multi-
tude of organisms which are found in land
breezes. It is now believed by these and other
investigators that none of the germs of an epidemic
can cross an ocean with the wind, but that
all low forms of life contained in it must
soon reach the water and die. Sea voyages are
now sometimes recommended on this special
ground.

Personal.

Paul Morphy, the famous chess player, died
on the 9th inst., at New Orleans.

General Franz Edward Todleben, the famous
Russian soldier and engineer, is dead.

The honorary degree of LL. D., has been con-
ferred upon Mr. Blaine by Bowdoin College.

Meissonier claims that he can do his best work
in his country house at Poissy. In his magnifi-
cent mansion in Paris he can only draw visitors
and admirers.

The Empress Charlotte, widow of the hapless
Maximilian, who for a brief period was the im-
perial purple in Mexico, was born June 7, 1840,
and has therefore recently completed her 44th
year. The Empress Charlotte is the sister of
Leopold II., King of the Belgians, and cousin of
Queen Victoria. She resides at the Palace of
Lacken, in Belgium, and has been nearly 17
years a widow.

Florence Nightingale is now residing in Lon-
don, seldom going into any society, but often
making journeys into Scotland and the continent
when her health allows her, for the purpose of
examining hospitals and reformatory work. Her
father's name was Shore; but it was legally al-
tered to Nightingale before the birth of his daugh-
ter, in accordance with the terms of an inheri-
tance. Florence was named, not from a relative,
but because of her parent's attachment to the
beautiful Italian city.

Pierre Van Cortlandt, a descendant of the his-
torical and honored Van Cortlandt family, died
on the 9th inst., at the old Van Cortlandt man-
sion at Croton Landing, on the Hudson, in the
sixty-ninth year of his age. His death was oc-
casioned by general debility consequent upon the
infirmities of age. He was buried on Monday
in the Van Cortlandt burying-ground, a short
distance from the house, where lie many other
members of the family, including Colonel Philip
Van Cortlandt, of Revolutionary fame. Ac-
cording to a time-honored family custom, the
body was borne to its last resting-place by his
tenants. Mr. Van Cortlandt was born at Albany
in 1815.

The cable announces the death of Rev. Dr.
William Jacobson, Bishop of Chester, England.
He was born at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, in
1803; graduated with high honors at Lincoln
College, Oxford, 1827; became a Fellow of Ex-
eter College, 1829; took orders in the Church of
England and was Vice-Principal of Magdalen
Hall, 1832-48; was successively select preacher
and public orator to the University and was in-
cumbent of Ilfley, near Oxford, 1839-40; became
regius professor of divinity, doctor of divinity,
at the same time a canon in Christ Church Ca-
thedral and rector of Ewelme, Oxfordshire, 1848,
and in 1865 was appointed Bishop of Chester,
the see including part of Lancashire. He edited
for the Oxford University Press "The Remains
of the Apostolic Fathers," "The Oxford Para-
phrases and Annotations on the Epistles of St. Paul,"
the "Collected Writings of Bishop Sanderson,"
"The Newell's Catechism," and other works.
Bishop Jacobson was a liberal in politics, and
one of the most scholarly prelates of the Church
of England.

Items of Interest.

It is estimated that the population of the United
States to-day is about 57,000,000.

The earnings for the fiscal year of the North
Pacific Railroad will be \$14,000,000. The total
earnings in April were \$1,400,000.

The double cemetery at Winchester, Va., has
7,000 Federal soldiers on one side of a stone wall
and 3,000 Confederates on the other.

A girl at Phoenix, Arizona, has been handi-
capped for life with the name of "Fancy Rosa
Beauty Spot Temptation Touch-Me-Not."

It was estimated by Park Guards that at noon
on the 4th of July there were over 150,000 peo-
ple within the limits of Fairmount Park, Phila-
delphia.

By the lease of the Pittsburg, Cleveland and
Toledo Railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio ac-
quires a new through trunk line from Washing-
ton and Baltimore by way of Pittsburg to Toledo
and Chicago.

France demands 250,000,000 francs indemnity
from China for the attack on French troops at
Lang Son, and has directed Admiral Courbet to
seize the Fort Cheon arsenal as a guarantee of
the payment of the indemnity.

A sparrow had a nest on the roof of the United
States Mint in Philadelphia, and was allowed
to fly freely about the smelting room. It col-
lected in its feathers enough gold dust, and shook it
off in the nest, to make it an object to break up
and assay the nest.

Some one conceived the idea of pasting a piece
of thread under the flap of an envelope, to help
in opening. The thread would slip out of the
way and be difficult to find, and a genius tied a
knot on the end of it; and a patent has been
taken out on that knot.

A range of mountains in Central Asia, the
Thian Shan, is thought to have as many as 3,000
glaciers, and there are ice bridges there 100
miles long and 100 feet thick. The range is
twenty-five times as large as the Swiss Alps, and
makes a protuberance upon the earth's surface
larger than the aggregate of all the mountains of
Europe.

The other day Mr. Asa Adams, of Pine Island,
Newbury, was hunting for a nest one of his ducks
had made on the farm, when he came across a
crow blackbird, which was with the others of its
kind, and was a perfect specimen apparently,
with the exception that its feathers were white
instead of the glossy black, which is the general
color of the bird.

The little town of Almora, hidden away in
the Himalayas, has a large asylum of lepers,
one of the oldest in India. On the terraced hill-
side are rows of pleasant barracks where they
dwell, and to those who are able to labor a little
plot of ground is given for a garden. A year
ago there were sheltered in this home 136 lepers;
and, of this number, eighty were professing
Christians.

It has cost an enormous sum to make Paris the
beautiful city which it is. During the last
twenty years the Director of Public Works has
spent \$130,800,000 on new streets, sewers, water
works, and public buildings. Of this large sum
\$38,200,000 were spent on new streets and \$22,-
000,000 on new public buildings. The cost of
making the Avenue de l'Opera and the Boulevard
St. Germain was \$16,000,000.

An old monk died recently in one of the Greek
monasteries of Mount Athos, whom foreigners
called "the mysterious monk." No one ever
found out his name. At his entry into the
monastery, the age of 20 years, he took the name
of Alpha, the first letter of the Greek alphabet,
and retained that name all his life. Nobody
knew to what country he belonged. He spoke
Greek, Russian, Belgian, Servian, and Italian.
He never received a visit from anybody, nor any
letters, and never spoke of his family. He was
in the monastery 57 years. He left nothing that
could reveal his secret.

The pomegranate is a delicious fruit which is
said to furnish for the sick-room the finest acid
known—superior to that of the lemon. It makes
also a wholesome summer beverage, and the
seeds, divested of the filament which separates
their congeners, are not to be despised if prop-
erly prepared for the table. In urging the culti-
vation of this fruit a Georgia authority says that
an acre planted in pomegranates, 15x10, would
contain 315 trees, and these would average
four years fifty to the tree, making a total to the
acre of 15,750 pomegranates; and these, at 4
cents a piece, would yield a yearly income of
\$730 to the acre of trees. These trees, attaining
age, will yield as the one named above.

A huge chunk of ice was left in front of John
Sipping's residence in Louisville. A servant
split the piece open, and just in the centre was
a large frog. The animal was a large black one
of the species known as the Michigan frog, and
weighed two pounds or over. The man who
delivered the ice said that it was part of a lot
that had been stored away by the Talmage Com-
pany in their ice-house for over four years, so
that the frog had been a prisoner in his cool den-
tation for all that time. His frogship was quite
lively when relieved from his prison, and hopped
about as vigorously as any of his tribe. It is
now being cared for as any of his tribe. It is
in a house, where it gets all the flies, crickets,
and lightning bugs it can eat, and a piece of ice to
sit on when it gets too hot.

Farm and Garden.

CARBOLINE ACID.—It is said that a teaspoon-
ful of carboline acid in two gallons of water will
prevent the ravages of the currant worm and rose
bug, and prove quite as good as Hellebore and
not so dangerous.

GARDENING IN A HOGSHEAD.—Some time ago
Mr. G. L. Record, of this city, bored holes in
rows around a hogshead, at regular intervals, six
inches apart, filling the hogshead with earth, and
set a strawberry plant in each one of the holes,
besides putting a number of plants on top. There
are 100 plants growing from the sides of this
novel garden, which are now in full beauty and
bloom, heaving a prolific growth of berries, and
looking remarkably thriving and healthy. Some
of the berries are ripe, and have attained great
size, one measuring three inches in circumference.

A lady writing to an exchange says: Never
give up choice but decaying rose bush until you
have tried watering it a few times with root tea.
Take soil from the chimney or stove in which
wood is burned and make a tea of it. When all
is cold, water the rose bush a second time on the
root. The shrub will quickly send out thrifty
shoots, the leaves will become large and thick,
and the blossoms will be larger and more richly
tinted than before. To keep the plants clear of
insects syringe them with quassia tea. Quassia
chips can be obtained from the apothecaries.

HOW TO PLUCK POULTRY.—I have known
persons on market day to go out and kill twelve
or fifteen fowls, and to bring them into a room
where they would be half a dozen women and
boys pulling a few feathers at a time, between the
thumb and forefinger, to prevent tearing them.
Now for the benefit of such I will give you my plan:
Hang the fowl by the feet with a small cord;
then, with a small knife give one cut across the
upper jaw, opposite the corners of the mouth;
after the blood has stopped running a stream
place the point of the knife in the groove in the
upper part of the mouth, run the blade up the
back part of the head, which will cause a twitching
of the muscles. Now is your time for every
feather yields as if by magic, and there is no
danger of tearing the most tender chick. Before
he attempts to flap you can have him as bare as
the day he came out of the egg.

"We once experimented," says the *Live Stock
Journal*, by hauling twenty-four large loads of
the best manure upon two acres of clay loam land.
Upon two acres more no manure was used, but it
was well worked. One and a half bushels of corn
were drilled per acre each piece, the drills being
sixteen inches apart. When the corn was ready
to cut the unmanured two acres stood eighteen
inches higher than the manured piece. The
manured piece gave twenty-two tons per acre,
and the other twenty-eight tons. The excellence
of the unmanured piece was due to the fact that
it was cultivated till the soil was as fine as a garden
bed four inches deep, and the cost of the extra
labor was only \$2.50 per acre. It is, there-
fore, apparent that the first consideration in fur-
nishing food for plants is thorough cultivation.

CLEAN DAIRIES.—Every farmer and farmer's
wife, conducting a dairy with the surest aims to
success, knows that perfect cleanliness and ven-
tilation are the most important requirements to be
observed, and cannot receive too careful attention.
Some of the largest and most profitable of the
dairies in Germany, which is celebrated for these
indispensable attributes of a great class of agri-
cultural establishments, are constructed partly
underground and partly above ground, and are
as neatly as possible a temperature of about
sixty degrees. The floors are paved with hard
brick, cemented, all small channels of pure
water are conducted through the apartments.
The air also circulates freely through them, and
the vapor of the milk pans is not unobstructedly.
The walls are smooth and whitewashed, and no
where can there be a trace of dirt or even a
semblance of dirt.

The pans are placed low down on the floors,
never on shelves, while the atmosphere within is
perfectly free from every disagreeable odor that
might have the effect of impairing the sweetness
and purity of the exposed milk and cream. Here,
in our own State, and especially in the eastern
portion of it, our best dairies are conducted on
similar methods, except that they are not fre-
quently sunk beneath the surface of the ground,
though they sometimes are where the spring is so
located as to make it necessary. Running water
is of the utmost importance in the manufacture
of a first-class article of butter; and where springs
are not attainable on the surface, the admirable
wind powers that have been introduced upon our
farms fairly supply this deficiency.—*Germanian
Telegraph*.

FIGHTING INSECTS.—Bulletin No. 9, of the
Massachusetts Experiment Station, gives the fol-
lowing as the best means of destroying the many
insects that make havoc among the crops of the
farm and garden.

Cabbage Flea.—The first insect of importance
that appears is the small black flea or jumping
beetle that attacks the cabbage, radish, turnip,
etc. Dusting with Paris green mixed with 100
times its weight of plaster has proved an effec-
tual remedy. Apply when the plants are wet
and after every rain.

The cut worm, of which there are several spe-
cies, including the army worm, works only dur-
ing the night, and may be destroyed by the same
remedy as above. We advise a trial of pyrethrum
powder mixed with five times its bulk of plaster
as being more safe, although we have no positive
proof that it will be effectual.

The striped squash bug which has been so
abundant for the past two seasons is best kept in
check by plaster and Paris green. For the
check by plaster the safest and most satisfactory
family garden the safest and most satisfactory
way is to make bottomless boxes, twelve inches
square, and six or eight inches deep, and covered
with mosquito netting; one of these placed over
each hill until the plants have become tough and
hard, is a sure protection.

The Potato Beetle.—Paris green extended with
plaster, flour, or water, is the only cheap, but
easily applied remedy known in its use, and es-
pecially in the place where the package is kept,
that it may not get upon the larva of the common
white butterfly, may be easily destroyed. Hand
picking, if begun before the first brood has
passed into the perfect state, is effectual. Pyrethrum
powder mixed with five times its bulk of plaster
and dusted into the centre of the leaves
with sulphur bellows is certain destruction to
every one of them. The cabbage has not been
satisfactorily on account of the peculiar structure
of the leaf surface which allows the water to roll
off in drops and not adhere to any part of it.
Paris green is unsafe to use after the leaves have
become over four inches in diameter.

The currant worm should be destroyed, while
small, with the dust of hellebore or pyrethrum.
The latter being perfectly harmless it is to be
more highly recommended.

Apple and Peach Borer.—For the destruction
of these two insects no sure remedy has been
found except the knife. It is probable that
covering the trunk of the tree near the ground
with the ink or tar used to catch canker worm

moths, or wrapping around the trunk bands of
tanned paper, would assist in keeping them away.

The Rose Bug has thus far been the most
difficult to overcome of the whole tribe of in-
jurious insects, and we can recommend no re-
medy with a great degree of confidence, but
would advise the trial of the fumes of gas tar
held under the vines a short time every evening
while the grapes are forming. It is certainly
offensive to them, and if used carefully need not
injure the plant.

Rose Slugs are easily destroyed by spraying
with water and pyrethrum at the rate of one
tablespoonful of the latter to a pailful of the
former.

Books and Periodicals.

Any of the books here noticed can be had through our
Publication House, 907 Arch Street.

A DICTIONARY OF MIRACLES, Imitative, Realistic
and Dogmatic. With Illustrations. By the
Rev. E. C. Brewer, LL.D. (the Fifth or
Golden Year of his Authorship, 1884),
Author of "Guide to Science" (three hundred
and eighty thousand), "History of France"
(tenth edition), "History of Germany," "The-
ology in Science" (eighth edition), "Reader's
Handbook" (third edition), "Dictionary of
Phrase and Fable" (sixteenth edition), "Rules
for English Spelling," &c., &c. Philadelphia:
J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1884, pp. 532, price,
\$2.50.

It will be seen from the title-page given above
that the author of the work before us is an old
and successful writer. The volume to which we
now call attention is certainly a remarkable one.
It shows great research, and is a thesaurus or
compend of what people may desire to know up
on the general subject. It gives not only the
miracles recorded in the Bible, but the corre-
sponding legendary wonder-works which have
challenged the credulity of men. For instance,
"Aaron's Rod becomes a serpent;" the Scrip-
ture statement is given; then follows such
parallels as that found in the story, that the
whip used by the Interarians to scourge St.
Pelerin (A. D. 303) underwent a like change.
Again, suppose the text is "Elijah fed by ravens";
Aurelius is fed by a pigeon; Prince Cadoc fed by
a mouse; Catherine of Alexandria fed by a dove;
St. Cuthbert fed by rooks, &c., are given as anal-
ogous. The second part of the book gives what
are called the "Realistic Miracles," where super-
human intervention is said to have proven the
literal meaning of texts of Scripture, as, for ex-
ample, the bodies of the saints kept from decay in
virtue of the promise, "Thou wilt not suffer Thy
body to see corruption." The third part of
the book records the miracles given to prove the
dogmas of the Roman Catholic Church. The
statements given are based upon such works as
the *Acta Sanctorum* and *Les Petits Bollandistes*, so
greatly valued by the Church of Rome as high
authority on the general subject. The list of
Thaumaturgists and the dates of ecclesiastical
practices will be found valuable. Some classical
legends are given in the volume, which make
the work all the more interesting.

One great advantage of the book is that it is so
admirably arranged alphabetically and contains
such a complete index that any subject may be
referred to with very little trouble. The author
does not pretend to maintain or deny the histori-
cal truth of the miracles recorded, but simply
presents the statements made in regard to them.
His object is to show by data alone the mode of
thought which has prevailed and still prevails in
Christianendom. He is rather disposed to discount
the tendency to belief in miracles, at least outside
of those recorded in the Bible. In our opinion,
he does not find a sufficient proof in all that he
has given us, of the fact that man must have the
supernatural. The outward make up of the vol-
ume is all that could be desired.

THE HISTORY OF FRANCE from the Earliest
Times to 1848. By M. Guizot and Madame
Guizot De Witt. Translated by Robert Black.
Profusely Illustrated. Vol. III. New York:
John B. Alden, Publisher. 1884. Cloth, pp.
473, gilt top.

We have received the third volume of this im-
portant work, with the announcement that the
rest are soon to follow. There are to be eight in
all, and the entire work will be furnished for \$6,
until the 15th of August, when the price will be
advanced to \$7. The character of the work is so
well known as to need no comment, and we can
only say that the edition here noticed is substan-
tial and fit for any library. Orders should be
sent directly to the publisher, 393 Pearl street,
New York.

HIMSELF AGAIN. A Novel, by I. C. Goldsmith.
Funk & Wagnalls' Standard Library, 10 and
12 Dey St., New York. Paper, pp. 286, price
25 cents.

The author of this work is announced as the
editor of the Personal Intelligence column of the
New York Herald, and his book is spoken of by
those who have read it as one of great merit.

KITTY KENT'S TROUBLES. By Julia A. East-
man. Illustrated. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co.
Price, 25 cents.

The publishers have shown rare judgment in
putting this excellent story into their new and
popular Young Folks' Library. Miss Eastman,
it will be remembered, took the prize of one
thousand dollars offered several years ago by this
house, for the best Sunday-school story, and the
present book is in every particular its equal. The
heroine is the daughter of a clergyman, "a girl
who is neither all good nor all bad, but partly
one and partly the other," and the narrative of
her trials and experiences is intended as a guide
and a help to other girls who have those of the
same kind to contend with, and to impress upon
them the lesson that "the only road to happiness
lies through the land of goodness."

A Life of the Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE will be
issued in a few days by R. Worthington, 770
Broadway, New York. It is written by Charles
Wolcott Balestier, author of "A Potent Philter,"
a novel which recently excited general interest
as a serial in the columns of the New York Sun-
day Tribune. This volume, which has been read
in proof by Mr. Blaine, has his sanction as to its
accuracy. It is a full but succinct record of his
life. It contains, in addition to the biography,
important selections from his speeches, which of
themselves are an admirable history of his pub-
lic career. A sketch of the life of John A.
Logan is appended. The volume is illustrated
with portraits of the candidates. A letter from
Mr. Blaine, of which he has kindly permitted
the use, gives the chief facts of his life in his own
words. It is reproduced in *fac simile*.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for August is a number
of unusual variety and interest, with sixty-two
fine engravings.—The Frontispiece is an en-
graving by Juengling, from the beautiful paint-
ing by T. W. Dewing.—The "Artist Strrolls
in Holland," by George H. Boughton, are resum-
ed, and will be read with as much zest as were
the earlier papers by this spirited author. The
papers are illustrated by the Author and E. A.
Abbey.—Mrs. Barton Harrison contributes a
very interesting article, entitled "Some Work of
the Associated Artists," treating especially of
Wheeler tapestries. The article is beautifully
illustrated.—William H. Rideing, under the

title of "The Gateway of Boston," describes the
picturesque islands of Boston Harbor, which are
effectively illustrated by W. F. Halsall and E.
H. Garrett.—A timely and interesting arti-
cle, finely illustrated, on Salt Lake City, is con-
tributed by Ernest Ingersoll; and G. O. Shields
describes, with animation, the hunting of the an-
telope in Montana. Mr. Shields's paper is illus-
trated by J. C. Beard and A. B. Frost.—A
series of papers, by the Rev. Treadwell Walden,
entitled "The Great Hall of William Rufus,"
and giving a panoramic view of English history
as associated with Westminster Hall, is begun in
this number, with a number of excellent illus-
trations from authentic sources. This method of
presenting history is both novel and effective.

—There is in this number a valuable con-
tribution from Dr. F. J. Nott on the medical
virtues of Richfield Springs and other New
York sulphur waters. A special analysis was
made for the purposes of the article, which, in its
scope and significance, resembles the article pub-
lished last year on Carlsbad. The article is
unillustrated.—More "Transcripts from Nature"
are contributed by William Sharp, with a
full-page illustration by Alfred Parsons.—
"Judith Shakespeare," by William Black, illus-
trated by Abbey, and "Nature's Serial Story,"
by E. P. Roe, illustrated by Gibson and Dielman,
are continued. Short stories are contributed by
Katherine S. Macquid and E. L. Bynner.—
Julian Hawthorne contributes an article entitled
"The Building of the Muscle," in which he pays
a pleasant tribute to William Blake, and de-
precates professionalism in athletic sports.—
Poetry is contributed by Lucy Larcom, Annie
Fields and Laura M. Marquand. The Editorial
Departments are vigorously sustained.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE. The numbers of the
Living AGE for July 12th and 19th, contain The
Malay Archipelago, Quarterly; Dictionary-Making,
Past and Present, British Quarterly; What Do
the Irish Read? Nineteenth Century; Le
Style c'est L'Homme; by the Earl of Lytton,
Fortnightly; The Scots Brigade, Scottish Re-
view; In a Greek Family To-day, and Under
the Shadow of the Sphinx, Macmillan; A Re-
markable Irish Trial, Longman's; Charles
Lamb's Letters, Golden Hours; The Irish "Cor-
onation Stone," Conquest and Character, and
The Destiny of Holland, Spectator; The Wel-
lington Statue, Times; with instalments of "Mit-
chelhurst Place," "Magda's Cow" and "In the
Tunnel," and poetry.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages
each (or more than 3,300 pages a year) the sub-
scription price (\$8) is low; while for \$10.50 the
publishers offer to send any one of the American
\$4.00 monthlies or weeklies with the LIVING AGE
for a year, both postpaid. Little & Co., Boston,
are the publishers.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW for August
contains an article by Justice James V. Camp-
bell on "The Encroachments of Capital," which
will command the serious attention of all readers.
Richard A. Proctor treats of "The Origin of
Comets," and succeeds in presenting that difficult
subject in a light so clear that persons who have
little or no acquaintance with astronomy can
follow his argument. "Are we a Nation of Ras-
cals?" is the startling title of an article by John
F. Hume, who shows that states, counties and
municipalities in the United States have already
formally repudiated, or defaulted in the payment
of interest on, an amount of bonds and other obli-
gations equal to the sum of the national debt.
Judge Edward C. Loring finds a "Drift toward
Centralization" in the recent judgment of the
Federal Supreme Court on the power of the
Federal Government to issue paper money, and
in the opinion of the minority of the same court
rendered in the suit for the Arlington property.
Julian Hawthorne writes of "The American
Element in Fiction," and there is a symposium
on "Prohibition and Persuasion," by Neal Dow
and Dr. Dio Lewis.

THE LUTHERAN QUARTERLY. Edited by M.
Valentine, D. D., E. J. Wolf, D. D., and Prof. P.
M. Bickle. Contents for July: The Living Earth,
by Prof. S. Carson Wells, Ph. D.; Catechization,
by S. W. Harkey, D. D.; The Central Church, by
Rev. S. E. Furst, A. M.; The Burial of the Dead
in the Early Christian Church, from the German
of Lic. V. Schultz, by Prof. George H. Schodde;
Of the Cause of Sin, by Prof. S. A. Repas, D. D.;
The Theological Seminary of the General Synod,
by F. W. Conrad, D. D.; The Prosperous Life,
by M. Valentine, D. D.; Literary Intelligence;
Notices of New Publications.
Terms: \$3.00 per annum, in advance.

Married.

19th of June, Miss Ida C. King, eldest daugh-
ter of Rev. H. King, Somerset, Pa., to D. E.
George, of South Bend, Pa.

On the 12th of July, 1884, at the parsonage,
Stone Church, Pa., by Rev. A. R. Thompson, Mr.
Jay H. Roberts, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Miss
Sarah M. Rasley, of Easton, Pa.

Obituaries.

DIED.—At Claylick, on July 2d, Gracie May,
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton, aged
9 months and 1 day.

DIED.—In Princeton, N. J., July 31, Katharine
Hodge McGill, second wife of the venerable
Dr. Alexander T. McGill, Professor Emeritus of
Princeton Theological Seminary, and daughter
of the late Dr. Charles Hodge.

DIED.—At Williamson, Franklin county, Pa.,
June 28th, 1884, Mrs. Florence A. Smith, wife
of William A. Smith, aged 29 years, 7 months
and 9 days.

Mrs. Smith was a daughter of Mr. Jacob Wier,
of Bridgeport, Franklin county. She was in
early girlhood and youth, as well as in maturer
years, a general favorite. She was fair and comely,
amiable in disposition, pleasing and graceful
in manners and address. Everybody loved her.
She was married to William A. Smith, May 6th,
1875. She was happy in her husband and he in
her. Their affection for each other could not
have

Religious Intelligence.

At Home.

Prof. J. Henry Thayer is elected to succeed the lamented Dr. Ezra Abbott in the Harvard Divinity School.

Dr. E. N. Potter has declined the Bishopric of Nebraska on the ground that his recently assumed duties as President of Hobart College make it obligatory upon him to stay in Geneva.

Ram Chandra Bose, a Hindoo convert to Christianity, preached at the Centenary M. E. Church, Chicago, June 29th, giving a description of his former belief, and of the present state of his people.

The membership of St. Mark's Workingmen's Club and Institute, Philadelphia, now numbers 475. It paid out in benefits last year, which was its fourteenth, \$2,605.77. It is a powerful instrument for good in such a parish as St. Mark's.

The Synod of the Reformed Church in America, resolved at its late meeting to re-open the Theological department at Hope College. A fifth professorship has been established at New Brunswick, to be called the "Professorship of Old Testament Languages and Exegesis."

The subjects for discussion at the Ninth Congress of the Episcopal Church in the United States, to be held in Detroit, October 7th next, will be "Authority and Conscience," "The Cathedral System in America," "Moral Education in Public Schools," "The Confessional," "Is our Civilization Just to Workingmen?" "Agnosticism," and "The Mission and Evangelistic Preaching." Bishop Harris of Michigan will preside.

Rev. John B. Thompson, pastor of the Reformed (Dutch) church at Catskill, N. Y., has resigned to go to Berkeley, where the congregation is poor, and the seating accommodations less than 150. In his letter of resignation, Mr. Thompson says the Catskill church is prosperous spiritually and financially, while the Berkeley church appears to him to deny the "enjoyments of luxuries" which the pastorate of the Catskill church confers. The Catskill people have just completed refurbishing the parsonage, and have offered Mr. Thompson \$200 more a year to remain.

The Reformed Episcopalians are to have a Divinity School in Chicago, to be opened next October. The valuable library of the late Bishop Cummings has been placed at its disposal by Mrs. Cummings. The following are to be the faculty: Homiletics and Pastoral Theology, Rt. Rev. Charles Edw. Cheney, D. D., Mental and Moral Philosophy, Rt. Rev. Samuel Fallows, D. D.; Systematic Divinity and Greek Testament Exegesis, William H. Cooper, D. D.; Apologetics or Evidence of Christianity, Joseph D. Wilson, D. D.; Ecclesiastical History, R. H. Bosworth, B. D.; Biblical Languages and Literature, Rev. F. I. Walton, A. M.; Ecclesiastical Policy and Liturgics, Rev. I. W. Farley, A. M.

Abroad.

It is said that the Russian Government has suppressed missionary operations.

The Jubilee Fund of the Congregationalists of Great Britain now exceeds \$1,525,000, of which sum the Welsh Churches have contributed \$125,000 in two years.

The receipts of the Church Missionary Society of England last year were, in round numbers, \$1,163,240, but even this large sum was insufficient to meet the ordinary expenditures.

The tenth World's Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations is to be held in Berlin, August 20-24. The Associations of United States, Canada, the British Isles, France, Italy, Australia, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Spain and other countries will be represented. The opening address will be given by Count A. Bernstorff, President of the Berlin Committee. An excursion to Potsdam, the Emperor of Germany's country residence has been planned for the delegates.

Statistics of the American Board of Missions in Japan, revised up to April 1, show that there are twenty-two churches under its care, fifteen of them self-supporting and three formed during the year. The present membership is 1,791, a gain of 690, or sixty-two per cent. over last year. The average number of pupils in Sabbath-schools is 1,611. The total contributions from the natives show a large increase during the past year. Forty of the laborers are from the United States and thirty-two are natives. The church at Imabari has a membership of 141; and three and a half years ago there were only six converts to Christianity among a population of some 10,000.

The Bishop of Aberdeen has sent letters of invitation to the American bishops with reference to the proposed commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Seabury. The bishops of Scotland have resolved that the actual day of the anniversary, November 14, should be duly observed; but having in mind that in November the seas are very rough and often dangerous, and that unfavorable weather is probable at that time, the bishops have determined that the great and general celebration of Bishop Seabury's consecration should be held on October 5, 6, 7 and 8; the object being to fix on a time as near the actual anniversary as possible, and yet at a period of the year when the largest number of bishops and celebrities from America, England, and elsewhere could attend in Aberdeen and could return home in comfort and safety. The arrangement is that on Sunday, October 5, there should be celebrations and sermons in every church in Scotland, the latter being preached by bishops and others from America and other foreign parts—their being the guests of the bishop in each of the seven dioceses of Scotland; October 6, rendezvous at Aberdeen; October 7 and 8, the special days of the celebration of the Holy Communion, services, sermons, public meetings, a banquet, papers read, and addresses given, etc.

The Independent says: That the steady and remarkable increase in the attendance of the German universities should excite comment is no more than natural. But it is an interesting problem whether this increase should be regarded with fear or with favor. Many of the most thoughtful in the Fatherland have adopted the latter view. Just at present students of social science are deeply interested in a new work by Dr. J. Conrad, professor in the law faculty of the Halle University, entitled "Das Universitätsstudium in Deutschland während der letzten 50 Jahre," which not only furnishes a wealth of carefully collected statistics of the university world in these last five decades, but also makes these statistics tell a tale and even preach a sermon. He shows conclusively that every faculty, with the single exception of that of Catholic theology, is greatly overcrowded, the supply far exceeding the demand. The ups and downs in the summary of attendance have been rapid and strange. He says: "The lowest figures we find in this period [of fifty years] was in the Summer semester of 1841 with 11,052 students, and in 1843 with 11,017, and as late as 1850 we find only 11,245. The next year the number began to grow, and grows steadily though slowly, until 1870, and after the war, as-

sumes immense proportions. Especially since 1877-1878 it seems that each year has added a new university like that of Strasbourg. From 1860 to 1882 the number of students has increased 12,091—i. e. the number has doubled itself within twenty-two years, or at the rate of 4.5 per cent. a year." In no faculty have the waves gone higher or lower than in that of Evangelical theology. In 1831 it numbered 4,147 students; in 1876, 15,339; in 1882, 31,168. Within the last ten years the attendance has been doubled. During the present term the number in this faculty is: Leipzig, 638; Halle, 488; Berlin, 459; Tübingen, 360; Erlangen, 305; Göttingen, 197; Königsberg, 158; Greifswald, 129; Jena, 127; Breslau, 117; Bonn, 109; Kiel, 72; Strasbourg, 72; Gießen, 68; Heidelberg, 54; Rostock, 50. In the beginning of the fourth decade of the present century there were 15.6 theological students to every 100,000 inhabitants; ten years ago only 6.7; in 1882 10.5, and in 1883 11.1. These data Dr. Conrad discusses at length as to their causes and their effects on education and the social life of Germany, with suggestions of reform. Whatever may be the merits or weaknesses of these latter points, certain it is that Dr. Conrad's book is one of the most thoughtful and best that educational circles in the land of scholars have for many years produced. Its importance and lessons are more than local.

The Government Chemist Analyzes two of the Leading Baking Powders, and what he finds them made of.

The best baking powder is made from pure Cream of Tartar, Bicarbonate of Soda, and a small quantity of flour or starch. Frequently other ingredients are used, and serve a purpose in reducing the cost and increasing the profits of the manufacturer.

We give the Government Chemist's analyses of two of the leading baking powders:

I have examined samples of "Cleveland's Superior Baking Powder," manufactured at Albany, N. Y., and "Royal Baking Powder," both purchased by myself in this city, and I find they contain:

"Cleveland's Superior Baking Powder,"

Cream of Tartar
Bicarbonate of Soda
Flour

Available carbonic acid gas 12.61 per cent., equivalent to 118.2 cubic inches of gas per oz. of Powder.

"Royal Baking Powder."

Cream of Tartar
Bicarbonate of Soda
Carbonate of Ammonia
Tartaric Acid
Starch

Available carbonic acid gas 12.40 per cent., equivalent to 116.2 cubic inches of gas per oz. of Powder.

Ammonia gas 0.43 per cent., equivalent to 10.4 cubic inches per oz. of Powder.

Note—The Tartaric Acid was doubtless introduced as free acid, but subsequently combined with ammonia, and exists in the Powder as a Tartrate of Ammonia.

E. G. LOVE, Ph. D.

New York, Jan'y 17th, 1881.
The above analyses indicate a preference for "Cleveland's Superior Baking Powder," and our opinion is that it is the better preparation.—Hall's Journal of Health.

7% NET Security three to six times the Loan without the Building. Interest, Semi-Annual. Nothing ever been lost. 25th year of business and 8th in business. Best of references. Send for particulars if you have money to loan. N. B.—Costs advanced, interest kept up, and principal guaranteed in case of foreclosure.
D. S. B. JOHNSTON & SON,
Negotiators of Mortgage Loans.
(Mention this paper.) ST. PAUL, MINN.

BARLOW'S INDIGO BLUE
Its merits as a WASH BLUE have been fully tested and endorsed by thousands of housekeepers. Your Grocer ought to have it on Sale. Ask him for it. D. S. WILTBURGER, Prop., 232 N. 2d St., Phila., Pa.

A NEW BOOK—FRESH AND INVITING, FAMOUS BATTLES OF THE WORLD
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FIRST ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT OF PLEASANTVILLE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.

The Commencement Exercises of this young institution began on Tuesday evening, June 17, by an entertainment by the literary societies. The annual address was delivered on Wednesday evening by Rev. D. Schindler, of Lancaster, O., subject—"True Culture." The commencement exercises proper took place on the campus on Thursday, beginning with an address before the graduating class at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Rev. D. Schindler, in place of Judge S. H. Wright, of Lancaster, who was sick. The speeches by the graduates were delivered in the afternoon. There were four graduates. Their names and subjects were as follows: A. L. Hiestler, "The Demands of the Times;" E. C. Hedrick, "The Works of Nature;" C. H. Emstler, "The Moral Bravery." The diplomas were presented by the Principal, Rev. J. B. Henry, A. M. The institution is in a prosperous condition. The Principal is well supported by Prof. Hartough and E. C. Zartman. A banquet in the evening closed the festivities of the occasion.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES OF THE COLLEGE OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

The Commencement Exercises of this institution were held in the College Chapel, Thursday evening, June 19th. A large audience was present. Four young gentlemen and two young ladies graduated in the commercial department. An interesting programme was rendered. This institution, having now completed its second year, has already won many friends. Its catalogues show an enrolment of sixty during the past year. The future is promising. It now has three regular professors composing its faculty: Rev. F. Wetzel, President, Henry Wetzel and M. E. Kleckner. The financial agent, Rev. I. A. Sites, is at present operating in the Western States. The object in view is to secure funds to liquidate the debt on the property and to establish an Endowment Fund.

Church News.

Stated Clerks of Churches and Pastors will oblige us by sending such items of News as will be of interest to the Church.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

Pennsylvania.

Manor Station.—Rev. H. F. Keener was installed pastor of the Brush Creek charge on the last Sunday in June by a committee of Westmoreland Classis; appointed for the purpose. The services were held in the forenoon in the Brush Creek church. The officers and some of the members of the other (Manor) congregation in the charge were also present. Rev. A. E. Truax, the chairman of the committee, preached the sermon on the occasion, and Prof. Lucian Cort delivered an address and took part in the services. The services were peculiarly solemn and seemed to take deep hold of the people. Bro. Keener begins his labors in his new field under favorable auspices. He at once adapted himself to his new surroundings, and already feels at home in his work, and the people on all hands receive him favorably. May the rich blessing of the Lord rest upon this new relationship established in His Kingdom!

Whitehall.—On Sunday, 15th inst., the cornerstone of the proposed new Reformed and Lutheran church at Whitehall Station was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The occasion was one of considerable interest to the citizens of the place, and to the Christian-minded especially a day of joy and happiness. Soon after the noon hour a large congregation of the good people of the village and neighboring townships assembled on the church grounds to participate in the services. At near 2 o'clock the exercises were commenced by the laying of the stone. The stone was prepared by Mr. E. H. Lentz, of this city, and the inscription on it reads as follows: "Lutheran and Reformed Church of Whitehall, A. D. 1884." The articles placed in it were a bible, hymn books, catechisms, historical sketch of the congregations, Lutheran and Reformed church papers, county papers, and a record of the new congregation, date of organization and corner stone laying, names of the building committee, church council, etc. The exercises in the afternoon were conducted by Revs. A. J. G. Dubbs and J. D. Schindler, and those in the evening by Revs. W. R. Hofford, J. S. Renninger and W. Rath.

Trappe.—The pastor of St. Luke's church, this place, Rev. H. T. Spangler, held his first communion in that church on the 29th ult. Two additions were made to the membership, both heads of families. A general praise meeting was held by the Sunday-school in the evening. Addresses were delivered by J. S. Freeman, Esq., of Norristown, and the superintendent, Prof. A. Reichenbach.

Philadelphia.—St. Mark's Reformed church (German). Rev. G. A. Scheer, pastor, Fifth street, above Huntingdon, is now being enlarged and improved. The addition will be 21 feet by 43. The main audience room will have an organ gallery and will be otherwise improved. The front will be altered so as to have one large door with a Gothic window above it. A tower will be erected at the corner of the building. The Sunday-school will have additional rooms for the infant class and Bible class.

Nebraska.

Humboldt.—Rev. J. G. Steinert, late of Centre Point, Ind., after a visit to Eastern Pennsylvania, left our city for Humboldt, Neb., where he has been sent by the missionary societies of North Western Synod to labor amongst the Swiss settled in that vicinity. Without an organization or pastor the people there—some twenty families—have built a church and a parsonage, and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the missionary. We enjoyed a brief and pleasant call from Rev. S. and good wife the day they left for their new home. We hope they may reach it in safety and be richly blessed in their labors.

Indiana.

Kentland.—The Lord's Supper was celebrated by the Reformed mission congregation at this place. Rev. G. C. Gerlach, pastor, on the 6th inst. Six new members were added to the church, one by confirmation and five by certificate. The new pastor feels encouraged in this his first field.

Ohio.

Basil.—The holy communion was celebrated by the Reformed church at this place, Rev. G. H. Leonard, pastor, on the 29th ult. Two persons, a young husband and wife, were admitted to membership by confirmation. The church on Sunday morning was filled to overflowing. A large number communed. The thankofferings amounted to over fifty dollars. The pastor was assisted by Prof. H. Rust, D. D. of Tiffin. He was pleased to renew old acquaintances after an absence of a number of years.

Kansas.

The following are the statistics of Kansas Classis:—Ministers, 12; congregations, 10; members, 399; unconfirmed, 430; infants baptized, 50; adults baptized, 0; confirmed, 34; certificate, 59; communion, 327; excommunicated, 0; erased, 5; dismissed, 2; deaths, 9; Sunday-schools, 6; Sunday-school scholars, 341; benevolent contributions, \$448.44; congregational purposes, \$478.85. D. B. SHURY.

Virginia.

Harrisville Charge.—June 29th was an interesting day for the Harrisville charge, as their first pastor as a separate charge, was installed on that day. This charge was separated from the Woodstock charge at the meeting of the Virginia Classis in May, 1883, but did not succeed in securing a pastor until May, 1884. Rev. E. Welby, M. D., accepted a call extended to him by this charge. The occasion of the installation was an interesting one. The entire committee, consisting of Rev. George A. Whitmore, President of Classis, Revs. Talhelm and Somme, were present, and also a large congregation. The sermon was preached by Rev. Whitmore from Matt. 9: 35, subject, "Christ the true model for the preacher, both as to pulpit and pastoral duty." It was very appropriate to the occasion, well conceived, and forcibly presented, especially the duty of the laity to co-operate with the pastor in his arduous work was strongly urged. Harrisville charge now takes its place with other charges, fully equipped for the work of the Master, and both pastor and people are very hopeful as to the outlook.

Personal.

Rev. D. W. Ebbert, of Spring City, Pa., who left for the Holy Land, the Continent, and the Reformed Alliance at Belfast, Ireland, April 2nd last, returned on last Monday, the 14th, in the Servia. He is well, stouter, and somewhat browned.

Major S. M. Finger, elder in Reformed church, Newton, N. C., has been made the nominee on the Democratic Ticket of that State, for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Rev. E. V. Gerhart, President of Theological Seminary, and wife, are on a visit to New England, making their headquarters at New Bedford, Mass.

Prof. W. M. Nevin, LL. D., Vice-President of F. and M. College, has gone to Carlisle, on a visit to his friends in Cumberland county, Pa.

We were favored with a call last week from Rev. Dr. G. W. Aughinbaugh, President of Mercersburg College, also from Rev. J. S. Hartzell, lately from Newton, N. C.

Rev. Dr. M. Kieffer is tarrying for a time with his son-in-law, Chas. D. Barney, Esq., at Cheltenham, Pa.

Rev. E. A. Gernant, pastor of Zion's church, Allentown, Pa., has been granted a vacation of six weeks, which he is spending on his father's farm, Leesport, Pa.

Clerical Register.

The P. O. address of Rev. J. G. Steinert is changed from Centre Point, Ind., to Humboldt, Richardson county, Neb.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

Wholesale Prices.

MONDAY, July 21, 1884.

FLOUR.—We quote the whole range of prices as follows: Supers \$2.50@3; winter extras, \$3@3.50; Pennsylvania family, \$4.25@4.50; Western winter low grades, \$4@4.50; do clear, \$4.75@5.25; straight, \$5.25@5.60; winter patent, \$5.50@6.25; Minnesota clear, \$3.75@4.50; do straight, \$4.50@5.50; do patent, \$5.75@6.25; Wisconsin clear, \$3.50@4; do straight, \$4.25@5; and do patent at \$5.25@5.75. Rye Flour was scarce and firm, with small sales of choice at \$3.75 per barrel.

WHEAT.—Sales of 7000 bushels new No. 2 Delaware red in test at \$1; 4000 bushels do do do at \$1; 1200 bushels old No. 2 Delaware red in test elevator at \$1.64; 600 bushels new No. 1 red in test elevator at \$1; 6500 bushels new No. 1 Pennsylvania red at \$1.02; 1200 bushels do do in test elevator at \$1.02.

CORN.—Sales of 600 bushels No. 3 mixed in grain depot at 63c; 1200 bushels do do to arrive in grain depot at 62c; 1200 bushels steamer high mixed and yellow to arrive at 63c, and 1800 bushels sail mixed spot on track at 64@65c, with 61c bid and 63c asked on call for sail mixed July in elevator; 61c bid and 62c asked for August; 61c bid and 62c asked for September and 62c bid and 63c asked for October.

OATS.—Sales of 2 cars rejected white at 37c, with No. 2 mixed quoted at 37c; 3 cars No. 3 white at 38c@39c, and 1 car No. 2 white at 39c, with 39c bid and 40c asked on call for July; 35c bid and 36c asked for August; 34c bid and 35c asked for September, and 35c bid and 36c asked for October.

RYE was dull and nominal about 70@72c, as to quality.

BUTTER.—We quote Western and Pennsylvania creamery, extras, 20c; exceptional brands of Western at 21c; do firsts, 18@19c; imitation creamery, 16c; Western dairy choice, 14@15c; do firsts, 11@13c; New York and Bradford county fresh tubs, 17@18c; firsts, 14@16c; packing grades, 8@9c; grease, 4@5c; creamery prints, fancy, 25c; good to choice, 18@22c; fair, 12@16c; dairy prints, 12@22c, as to quality.

CHEESE.—Quotations: New York full cream choice new 9@9c; do fair to good, 8@9c; Ohio full choice, 7@7c; selections, 5c; do prime, 7c; do fair to good, 4@4c; Pennsylvania part skims, fancy, 4@4c; do fair to prime, 2@3c; do full skims, fresh arrivals, 1@2c, and old skims, 1@1c.

PROVISIONS.—We quote Mess Pork at \$16.50@17; shoulders in salt, 63@7c; do smoked, 7@7c; pickled shoulders, 8@8c; do smoked, 9@9c; breakfast bacon, 10@10c. Loose Butcher's Lard, 7c; prime steam do, \$7.40@7.50; city refined do, 8@8c; Beef Hams, \$31; Dried Beef, 20@21c; Sweet pickled hams, 12@13c; do, as to average; smoked hams, 14@15c, as to average. City family beef, \$13@13.50. City Tallow, 6@6c.

HAY AND STRAW.—We quote North Pennsylvania Hay choice at \$20; do Western and New York State at \$17; fair to good do, \$14@15; poor and medium do, \$10@12. Rye Straw quiet at \$17.50@18 for new.

Live Stock Prices.

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